MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

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Editorial.

CURRANT BUSHES.

Preparing for Winter.

Before the ground freezes the currant bushes should receive especial attention, that they may be in a condition to winter well. If the ground has been mulched with any light material that will make a good harbor for mice, it should be removed, or the mice will be very likely to eat the bark from the main stalks during the winter. If any of the bushes are dead, or it is desired to enlarge the plantation, the autumn is the time to fill vacancies, and to set new plantations. The currant starts so early in the spring, that it is rarely that the ground is in good condition to work before they are started so much that it does great injury to remove them. We have found, in our practice, that plants set in the autumn will make twice the growth of those set in the spring. While it is very rarely that a plant set in the autumn dies; those set in the spring always more or less die, except in very favorable seasons.

The autumn is the best time to trim currant bushes, especially if the cuttings are wanted to make new bushes. If the bushes are to be kept vigorous, with large leaves, the knife should be used very freely, and most of the new sprouts should be cut back to the main stalk, and the whole top should be cut back so as not to leave more than one half of the last season's growth; in this way plantations of currant bushes can be kept in good condition to produce large fruit many [illegible] and numerous suckers are permitted to grow up from the bottom of the main stalk, the top seems to outgrow the roots, the leaves are small, and the fruit is not half size.

Should it be found necessary to remove the mulching before winter sets in, the ground should be well covered with manure, say at the rate of thirty cords to the acre; for the currant requires high manuring, if good crops of fruit are expected.

When the cuttings are wanted for new plants they should be cut in proper lengths and tied up, fifty in a bundle, and then buried in a sand bank four or five inches deep; if the bank is open to the south, so much the better. By practical experience we have found that cuttings thus kept, and planted out early in the spring, are not only very sure to live, but make a better growth than if set in the autumn, which reverses what we have found to be true with plants that have roots. The scientific reason for this we do not attempt to explain. We only know that a large number of practical tests prove it to be so.

Cuttings six or eight inches long are better than longer ones, even to set on sandy land. Never set cuttings on a clay soil, or a soil that is not thoroughly drained.

MANURING THE ORCHARD.

That the orchard should be kept well manured is at the present time very generally admitted; but what is the cheapest and best material to apply is as yet unsettled.

Those who have had an opportunity to test the different fertilizers, are as a rule, opposed to the application of large quantities of fresh stable manure, especially to the pear orchard, but if such manure is to be applied it should be applied in the autumn.

That bearing trees consume considerable quantities of both phosphates and potash is conceded by all, and that the application of large quantities of manure rich in nitrogen is not only not necessary, but positively injurious is the opinion of some very intelligent orchardists. We have seen orchards very much improved by applying wood ashes in considerable quantities, but not as much as when fertilized with a moderate quantity of ground bone, which would seem to imply that the phosphate is needed the most.

Some orchardists apply ground bone and wood ashes, or muriate of potash, mixed with good success, 50 bushels of ashes, and 1000 pounds of ground bone, makes a very liberal dressing for an acre of land, and will last a number of years. When wood ashes cannot be obtained, 500 pounds of muriate of potash may be used in its place.

When barn manure is to be used, if only half the usual quantity be applied, and the same value of ground bone be applied with it, the result will be much more satisfactory, than if all manure be applied. When an orchard gets grown to near its full size, it is not so desirable that materials should be applied to force the growth of the wood, as it is to force the growth of the fruit; this is a fact that ought not to be lost sight of. An orchard just set, will bear more nitrogen and potash than the orchard that is fully grown.

In applying fertilizers to an orchard, it should be spread over the entire surface of the ground, and not applied, as some do only a few feet from the tree. The feeding roots of a tree are at the small ends of the roots, more than at the large ends near the tree, and they are also very near the surface, where the land is not ploughed every year, therefore, whatever fertiliser is applied should be spread evenly over the surface, and left but a few inches under it, then the feeding roots will easily reach it.

☞ A belief exists in Scotland that the movement in favor of importing store cattle from this side of the Atlantic, is promoted by Scotch capitalists interested in cattle ranches in this country. Of one fact we may rest fully assured, namely that we can fatten cattle more cheaply in this country than growers in Great Britain. The sales for last week, as collected from the several houses, have been 1,327,700 lbs domestic and 53,500 lbs foreign, a total of 1,381,200 lbs. For the previous week, the sales were 1,462,100 lbs domestic and 27,000 lbs foreign, a total of 1,489,100 lbs. For the same week last year the sales were 2,366,600 lbs domestic and 752,000 lbs foreign; total, 3,188,600 lbs.

REMOVING LARGE TREES.

Occasionally it is found desirable to remove a large tree, so large that it is not safe to do it in the usual manner of separating the soil from the roots. A tree ten or twelve inches in diameter, and twenty feet high, can be removed with safety, if proper measures be adopted, and the soil be free from rocks and large stones; such trees should be removed in the winter when the weather is favorable, but every preparation for it should be made in the autumn before the ground freezes. The tree that is to be removed should have a trench dug around it so as to leave a ball of earth from six to eight feet in diameter, according to the size of the tree. The trench should be three feet in depth, and when dug should be half filled with sawdust, or, if near the seashore, eel grass; the tree thus prepared should be left until the ground is frozen two feet deep. A hole should be dug where the tree is to be removed to, making sure that it is large and deep enough to receive the ball of earth that is to be removed with the tree. When thus dug it should be protected from the frost with sawdust, eel grass, or some material that will prevent the earth from freezing, and yet can be readily removed when desired. When it is found that the ball of earth around the tree is well frozen, cut off a portion of the top to balance the loss of the roots, and with a yoke of oxen or a pair of horses pull the tree over, and if the earth is well frozen the whole ball of earth within the trench will come with it. When the roots are freed from the soil, load it on a large dray, such as is used to remove rocks; thus loaded the tree may be transported to the place prepared for it and set up. One or two loads of good loam should be kept where it will not freeze, so when the tree is set in its place, it can be used to fill up the space under and around the ball of frozen earth that surrounds the tree.

Large trees thus removed often do well, but the expense, when properly done, is such that it is only in rare instances that it is advisable for men of limited means to attempt it, but men of large wealth will often derive great satisfaction by thus gaining time in ornamenting their homes.

BUILDING AND REPAIRING ROADS.

Every farm requires roads to reach the different portions of it, and it is for the farmer to decide what kind of roads he shall have; whether they shall be good enough to enable him to haul a full load, or only half a load, or whether they shall be permanently located, or changed every year.

To locate roads where they shall prove to be the most convenient, requires foresight as well as good judgment. As a rule, it is best to go around a hill rather than to go over it; but it is often better to cross a hollow than to go twice the distance to get around it, because on most of New England farms it is easier to fill up than to cut down for a road; there being on many farms plenty of rough stones, that are in the way of cultivation, which could be used to fill up the deep hollows, and thus not only get rid of the stones, but make a good, permanent roadbed, and the value of the improvement would be quite as much as the cost of removing the stones. Thus it will be seen that on all rocky farms the roads should be located where it requires more filling than digging to make good places for the surplus rocks. Another advantage of locating the roads where it requires filling is they will be better by having them built on a bed of rocks, for a road thus built will always be hard and dry at all seasons of the year.

On many farms in New England the farmer could occupy the month of November to good advantage by building roads of the numerous stone walls that encumber his land, and on some farms this work could be continued every November for a dozen years, and yet there would be stone wall, enough left to enclose his farm.

On large farms a portion of every year should be devoted to road repairing as well as road building, thus gradually improving the condition of the farm by reducing the power required to remove the materials to and from the barn.

There is no time in the year better adapted to the work of road building and repairing than immediately after harvesting is over; yet too many farmers will neglect this work until driven to it, perhaps in the busiest part of the year, by a washout caused by a heavy summer shower.

PRICES FOR FRUITS.

The Chicago Tribune is of the opinion that the prices of fruit will never be low again in this country. The facilities of transportation are so abundant and the foreign demand for evaporated fruit so constant and increasing that fruit growing in the United States may be considered established as a paying business while grass grows and water runs. Thus the production of standard fruit is an increasing business, and not only seedsmen and nurserymen are profiting from it, but those who give most attention to orchards, vineyards, berry gardens, etc., find their interests rapidly on the increase. Our railroads carry fruits and their products hundreds of miles, and render possible the cultivation of flourishing orchards on hitherto isolated hills which were abandoned to the wilderness. Dried fruit is wanted in most foreign countries. Canned fruit is carried from our great seaports to the end of the earth, and profitably sold. Many of the European peasants use our jams instead of butter on their bread. Dehydrated or evaporated fruit, better than all other kinds, is of general acceptance wherever offered, and valued equally with the fresh products. Within the last ten years the amount of raw fruit brought into England from the United States is something astonishing. In 1871 there were but 56,441 bushels, valued at £40,604; but in 1882 there were 1,065,076 received in Great Britain from this country, worth £387,190, or $1,881,734.40. The outlook for the American fruit grower is most favorable, and those of the rising generation who have a fancy for the business may enter upon it with confidence that their enlightened efforts will be crowned with success.

Questions & Answers.

☞ All questions to the Editor, desiring answer through the *Ploughman*, should be accompanied by full name of the correspondent.

THE COW'S CLEANING.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have a cow which has eaten her cleaning. Please inform me through your paper what effect it will have on the milk, and how long before it will be suitable for use?

A CONSTANT READER.

November 10, 1884.

It was very recently that we replied to an inquiry on this very subject, and the receipt of another letter shows how little correct information on this point exists.

The care of the cow and her proper treatment after calving are very important. It is a strong natural instinct which prompts her to devour the after-birth or cleanings. Why it is so we cannot say, but it answers some wise purpose, and she should not be prevented from doing so. The first milk is adapted by nature for the use of the calf and exerts a salutary effect upon the action of the intestinal canal. It is generally thought that the milk is not fitted for the use of man under 36 or 48 hours after calving. To take away the calf immediately is unwise and cruel. The licking of her offspring is beneficial both to the young animal and to the mother. The sucking of the calf is essential in order to bring the udder into a proper condition and to prevent garget and its consequences, and it should not be removed for several days. If we think that we are wiser than nature then we go against our own instincts and must suffer the consequences.—ED.

Stock Department.

BREEDING FROM MATURE ANIMALS.

[Breeders' Journal.]

There is an old saying that "haste makes waste." This is as true in breeding heifers too young as in the other business concerns of life. There may be exceptions to the rule, but they only go to prove it. The breeders of Jersey cattle seem to have a mania for breeding their heifers at most outrageously young ages. But we may safely say that those who do so are not among the most practical cattle breeders, and lack in experience the knowledge of the evil effects produced by too young breeding. If the heifer is fed grain from the time she is eighteen or twenty months old, she will have matured under favorable circumstances, to as large a size, full growth and maturity of her different organs, as though she was [illegible] older. She can for this reason be bred at a younger age than though she was left to mature in a slower manner. It has been a fact repeatedly noticed that the second crop of calves from a bull are superior in form, aptitude to fatten and early maturity to his first crop. This goes to demonstrate that breeding from mature animals will produce better cattle than breeding from immature ones.

In looking through a bunch of calves, if inquiry is made, it will be found that the smaller ones, those doing the poorest, are from two year old heifers. This is owing to some extent to the fact that the heifers do not give as much milk as other cattle; but this would not hold good where the calves are raised by hand and each obtained an equal amount of milk; the same difference in quality will be found in the latter case, in favor of the calves from the older and mature cows. There is a vitality about Hereford cows which enables their owners to breed from them in a profitable manner to greater age than from other breeds of cattle. The calves from an old cow generally come strong and hardy. They are well developed and are quickly on their feet, and the cows have a sufficiency of milk to raise them in good shape. The opposite is true in the case of young heifers. Their calves are apt to come out overly strong, and the heifer does not have a full flow of milk. These facts are proof that it is better to breed from mature animals in a herd where calves are raised for beef purposes and the male calves converted into steers. Twelve years is old enough for any cow to remain in the herd, as after that date they are hardly as quick breeders and will take more feed to keep them in an equal condition with the younger cows. A Hereford cow then can be fattened into a good piece of beef and sold at a profitable price. With Shorthorn cattle they must be turned off at a younger age, as they have not the constitution and vitality to keep them at calf raising for this period of time, and still have vitality enough to make a butcher's beast.

The Apiary.

PREPARING BEES FOR WINTER.

From November 1 to the middle of December, says J. M. Hicks, in American Bee Journal, is a good time to look after the bees, and see that they have a sufficiency of honey to last them through the winter. Perhaps in some seasons, and especially in the eastern States, it should be attended to earlier. A good colony of bees should have at least fifteen to twenty pounds of honey stored in the combs. It is now a mooted question as to whether it is advisable for a colony to possess a very great quantity of pollen in their winter stores.

It has been asserted, and we think very justly too, by some who profess to be well versed in the science of apiculture, that pollen is the true cause of so much disease among bees during the winter months, and especially very early in the spring do we often hear of complaints about the bees having diarrhœa. As a remedy for this trouble we suggest that salt water be placed in wooden troughs and set within a few yards of the bees, and then we think there will be but little risk to run in bees keeping perfectly healthy if all other things are in proper condition, such as ventilation, good pure food, and a comfortable shed which should always be provided for them by the bee keeper. The shed should have an eastern front, but if it cannot be thus made, our next choice would be south front. All bee sheds should have a close fitting back and a well shingled roof.

If these suggestions are attended to at the right time, and prepared with as due regard to comfort for the bees as any other stock on the farm, we would have no cause for complaint. A good farmer never thinks that he has done too much for his horses, cows, sheep and hogs by building good barns, stables and pens in which he can have all his farm stock protected from inclement weather.

The question has often been asked, "Is it necessary to build good winter quarters for bees?" We answer that it is just as essential as it is for any other stock. It is true that we do not pay as much for a colony of bees as we do for a cow or a horse; but it is no less the duty of the husbandman to protect and care for the bees by providing the proper sheds for them, when they "board themselves," and often return a large surplus of honey.

☞ The business of importing oleomargarine into England has become the subject of legislative action.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

— Pleuro pneumonia will exist in New York just so long as they have their swill dairies.

— Philadelphia spends $1,000,000 a year for cut flowers.

— Cotton mills in Mexico consume yearly about 75,000,000 pounds of raw cotton.

— A Buenos Ayrean paper, in speaking of the success of the frozen mutton cargoes sent from that country to Europe, says the price of sheep there has somewhat improved, as they now sell at about $1 each. Three more freezing establishments are being erected, and there is practically no limit to the frozen mutton trade as there are over 100,000,000 sheep in the Plate district. Cattle sell at $6.35 per head.

— The agricultural prospects are not in a very flourishing condition.

— From beets alone Germany now produces nearly twice as much sugar as the island of Cuba from its cane fields; its yield for 1883—1884 being 925,000 tons.

— During the recent harvest season in Italy the reapers have earned $1 50 per day, which they consider extraordinary wages. Their work lasted fourteen hours daily, from 4 A. M. to 8 P. M., with intervals for meals, which consisted of mush and oil, Bologna sausage, rice, beans, cheese and wine, taken at seven, twelve and six o'clock. Outside of the season their hands find little to do, and they sicken often from downright starvation and stagnation.

— The mighty West is now giving us bogus cattle companies; enterprising men get them upon paper and come east and sell the paper stock, this latter is about the only "stock" there is in the companies.

— En llage grows more and more in favor.

— A New York man has a fruit which is a lemon and an orange combined. One side is sour and the other side is sweet. It is probably more curious than true.

— Keep the farm tidy. It is always a good plan to have things neat.

— It is evident that shippers of apples to England are getting much better returns of late, and the quantity being shipped is large, and that in this direction will a good part of the surplus of American apples go.

— The tobacco trade in Virginia is dull and very much depressed, and the tax returns to the United States government are small.

— The first Merino sheep brought to this country were brought in 1793, by Wm. Foster of Boston. Three were imported and killed for mutton.

— Willow cuttings will grow quickly and make good posts for wire fences.

— Arizona has extensive white pine forests.

— An Alabama farmer obtained eight gallons of molasses from one hundred watermelons.

— The average weight of the carcases of American cattle is over one third more than it was fifty years ago.

— Young banana trees are growing finely at Los Angelos, California, and in some of the sheltered valleys there will be quite a large crop of fruit this year.

— The hog cholera is spreading in western Pennsylvania. A handful of unleached wood ashes fed in the swill two or three times a week is said to be a preventive of the cholera.

— A good idea of the rapid growth of agriculture in this country, during the past twenty years, can be gained from the fact that in 1860 the whole number of farms in the United States was 2,000,000, the estimated value of which was $6,645,000, an average of about $3322. In 1880, the number of farms had increased to 4,000,000, the estimated value of which was $10,000,000.

— It is said that the low grade wheat being exported from Atlantic ports for the continent of Europe is much of it for the purpose of chatelling.

— There is a man near Danbury, Ct., so inhumane that he has worn off the right legs of three head of cattle by tying their heads down to their feet, and turning them loose in the pasture. When a rain came the rope slipped up nearly to the knee and down, causing the legs to drop off.

— The meat war in New York city, carried on by a butcher's protective society against Chicago dressed beef, still continues, and many dealers give notice on placards that they do not deal in western beef.

— Ship Rembrandt, from Boston, is partly loaded with 2000 barrels apples, which are to be kept in good condition by the 1300 tons of ice that make up nearly the balance of the cargo. The Tudor Company formerly sent the best of Baldwin apples from Boston to Calcutta, where they retailed at ten cents apiece. Now the ice used in that heated city is made there, hence Boston ships no apples to India.

— Dr. Davenport, milk inspector for the city of Boston, asks for an increase of his salary from $400 to $3000.

— A Philadelphia doctor reports having found worms in ice. What next?

— London is the centre of the wool trade of the world.

— Charcoal is good for bugs.

— One estate in Great Britain consists of 460,000 acres of land, the rent rolls of which amount to $1,200,000 a year.

— Italy has 4,800,000 lemon trees which produce 1,260,000,000 lemons per annum.

— In Norfolk, England, farmers buy fish at $4 a ton and mix with soil as one to forty and obtain very heavy crops of turnips.

— Great Britain has 180,000 acres in apple orchards.

— In Australia the peach crop was so enormous as to furnish food for pigs.

— One fourth of the cotton grown in this country is produced in Texas.

— English farm rents still continue very low and there is no prospect of any immediate betterment.

— Cuban planters are turning their attention to the cultivation of Lisal hemp.

— New York takes about 20,000 barrels of eggs every week.

— Canada has doubled her make of cheese in five years.

— In Alsace, Lorraine, the production of tobacco has increased during the past four years from 217,943 acres to 275,592 acres.

— India is engaging in the dried fruit business.

— The wool clip of California in 1883 amounted to 40,848,700 pounds.

— A cocoa nut plantation has been started in Florida.

— Great Britain consumed about 4,000,000 bushels of grain a week during the past eight months. Sicily sumach is considered the most valuable.

— The cattle interests of this country represent forty three million head of cattle worth fifteen hundred million dollars.

— A Michigan firm buys and ships during the proper season twenty five to one hundred dozen of frogs' legs daily to city markets.

— In the mutton districts of France the contest is between Southdowns and Shropshires.

— Tennessee has 300,000 dogs.

— Out of twenty one Presidents fifteen were farmers and most of the founders of our Republic were farmers.

— There is an increase in the valuation of Connecticut of $6,832,313.

— We import every year 6,000,000 bushels of barley, $20,000,000 worth of flax, and $90,000,000 of sugar.

— Mexico has no prospect of becoming agricultural; it is essentially a mining country.

— Indian wheats are very heavy as they weigh from sixty to eighty four pounds per bushel, as against sixty one to sixty one and three fourths pounds for American. They also give more flour.

— In North Carolina the profits in the yellow tobacco belt sometimes reach $350 an acre.

— Experiments as to the feeding value of alfalfa or lucern are being made; it may be at once stated that it possesses little if any fattening qualities; not more than marigolds.

The Poultry Interest.

POULTRY SHOWS FOR 1884 AND 1885.

Southern Illinois Poultry and Pet Stock Association. Anna. A. A. Cowdery, Cobden, secretary. August 29, 1884.

Waltham Fanciers' Club, Waltham, Mass. W. E. Shedd, secretary. First week in December, 1884.

Southern Indiana Poultry Association, Evansville. F. M. Gilbert, secretary. First week in December, 1884.

Central Illinois Poultry Association, Alton, Ill. A. J. Boswell, secretary. December 10-12, 1884.

Southwestern Iowa Association, Creston, W. H. Stonebouse, secretary. December 16-19, 1884.

Southern Massachusetts Poultry Association, Taunton, Mass. T. J. Eddy, secretary. December 16-20, 1884.

Logansport (Ind.) Poultry Club, J. K. Waltz, secretary. December 16-20, 1884.

Ohio State Poultry and Pigeon Breeders' Association. W. A. Jutrey, secretary, Springfield. December 17-23, 1884.

Worcester County West Poultry Association, Spencer, Mass. P. Emerson, secretary. December 23-24, 1884.

Meriden Poultry Association, Connecticut. Joshua Shute, secretary. December 30 and 31, 1884, and January 1 and 2, 1885.

Champlain Valley Poultry Association, Burlington, Vt. M. H. Stone, secretary. Early in 1885.

New York Fanciers' Club, New York City. Chas. B. Harker, secretary January, 1885.

Central Massachusetts Poultry Club, Worcester. H. A. Jones, secretary. January 5-7, 1885

Des Moines (Iowa) Poultry Club. A. Swits, secretary. January 12 17, 1885.

World's Fair, Poultry Department, New Orleans, La. B. N. Pierce, special commissioner, Indianapolis. January 15 to February 15, 1885.

Iowa State Poultry Association, Boone. J. H. Boggs, secretary January 20-26, 1885.

The Sheepfold.

SHEEP NOTES.

The Texas Wool Grower claims that there are influences at work which will give a favorable turn to the wool industry before next Spring, and that it will pay to hold on to sheep now. To sell at low prices is no remedy for existing trouble.

Australasia and New Zealand together place in the London market annually, according to the National Stockman for distribution over the world, considerably more wool than is produced in the United States, their joint product not falling far below 400,000,000 pounds. Only a trifling percentage of the tota. grown in that region is worked up in home manufacture.

The wintering of sheep depends much on the condition of the flock at the beginning of winter, remarks the Michigan Farmer. Sheep that are low in flesh in the fall hardly ever improve, but keep going down hill all along, until before the spring time draws around their pelts are hanging in the shed. See, then, that your flocks are in good condition, and if there are any thin ones among them, separate them from the rest and give them a little grain each day until they have gained their wonted vigor.

A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer says: G. W. Holloway some time ago wanted to kill ticks on lambs. When you get up your sheep to shear them, separate your lambs from the old sheep. When the old sheep are sheared they are free from ticks. Then make a strong brine, using common barrel salt, put it in a kettle or tub large enough to dip the lamb all over in the brine, head excepted, let it remain in the brine one or two minutes, then with the hands press all the brine out of the wool. You can then bid the ticks good-bye and let the lambs go with the flock again.

The possibilities of the business of rearing sheep for wool on the broad Western plains are shown by a few figures, as follows: In the twenty years ending in 1883 there have been imported into the United States over 1,200,000,000 pounds of wool, while the total consumption of our home manufactures has been over 5,300,000,000 pounds. With large deficiency of product there is clearly room for a great and profitable increase in the flocks, and just at present it would require 14,000,000 sheep, or an increase of about one-third the number now in the country, to make the production and consumption balance. And truly there is room enough for this additional number of sheep in many single States.—[Western Rural.

In selecting wethers for feeding, says the National Stockman, it should be borne in mind that there is as much difference in the fattening qualities of sheep as there is in cattle, and that a square, compactly built wether with a good spring of ribs, is much more handy and more easily fattened than a lank, lean one that does not seem to have enough stamina to carry it out of danger. Bear this in mind, and remember that there are always a few sheep in a bunch which will not fatten, no matter how much care and [illegible] bestowed upon them. Throw such animals out and make some other disposal of them, for feeding them is a losing game.

More lambs are consumed for food in England, in proportion to the number of sheep grown, than in any other country. And when a year ago the Queen set the example of abstaining from lamb during the season, in order to give an increase to the flocks of the United Kingdom, the cost English epicures some self-denial to follow her in this matter. However, the result is that the number of lambs, which had been rapidly declining, has since greatly increased. The official statement of live stock for 1884 shows that the proportion of lambs to sheep is now fifty-nine per cent., and there has been an increase of nearly one million in the number of both, or about 4 per cent.

Horticulture.

WOOD ASHES IN THE ORCHARD.

Among the most common and most valuable of special manures I place wood ashes. The amount of ash and its relative composition vary with the kind and part of vegetable burned, but we may safely take the ash of the body of a beech tree as representing the average composition of wood ashes. One bushel of ashes represents about 2 1-2 tons of dry body wood. Wood ashes contain all the required elements of plant nutrition except nitrogen. One hundred pounds wood ashes contain 16 pounds of potash worth 80 cents, 3 1-2 pounds soda worth 2 cents, 67 pounds of lime and magnesia worth 8 cents, and 5 1-4 pounds phosphoric acid worth 26 cents. If we had to buy in market in the cheapest form the manurial materials contained in 100 pounds ashes the cost would be $1.16. Can you afford to throw away such valuable materials, or sell them for sixpence a bushel to the soap boiler? No argument is needed; here is the value and there is the selling price. Draw your own conclusions.—[Prof. Kedsie.

THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Rural New Yorker says that few are aware of the influence of the American Pomological Society, now in the thirty-fifth year of its existence, as the leader in the promotion of pomological sciences on this continent. It was the first national society of the kind ever established in the world, and its example has been followed by many of the nations of the Old World; and one lately introduced reform in the nomenclature of fruits will, ere long, be as popular with them as it is now with us. We have had a capital illustration of this in the recent exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, all of the fruits being purged of long, useless, and improper affixes and suffixes.

"STOCK RAISING IN WYOMING AND COLORADO."

"BREEDING DOMESTIC ANIMALS."

MEETING OF FARMERS

At Middleboro', Plymouth County, Mass.

Reported expressly for the Ploughman.

The Plymouth County Agricultural Society held a Farmers' Meeting at the Town Hall, Middleborough, Nov. 14, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Eldridge Cushman, President of the Society. The first speaker introduced was Mr. Alden, who gave a brief history of Middleborough, stating that it was not until 1661, that the red man could be induced to sell one foot of the land. Middleborough contains 400 farms, being twice the number of any other town, and it is the centre of the largest white pine forest this side of Maine, the yearly income of which, is $100,000. There is one thing the farmers have done, they have formed a Milk Producers' Association, and they yearly sell $12,000 worth of milk. This, I think something worthy of remark; it speaks well for the farmers. Mr. Alden closed his remarks by giving statistics of some of the leading industries of the town, hats and shoes standing at the head of the list. The President next introduced C. D. Kingman, Esq., of Middleborough, whose subject was on

"Stock Raising in Wyoming and Colorado."

MR. KINGMAN'S REMARKS.

"Ever since I was a boy, and listened to my father's account of a trip across the Rocky Mountains, I have felt a great interest in the western country. Since then great changes have taken place; we now go through the country in a manner that our fathers never dreamed of. In speaking of the pasturage where the cattle feed, he said, "They are 7 miles square; the cattle live in the open air all winter, and come out in the spring in fair condition. A yoke of oxen, turned off in the autumn, come back in the spring in a condition to work. The farmers of this section are saved the trouble of harvesting their fodder, and of feeding it out, and the alkaline springs give the cattle all the salt they need, so they do not have to salt their cattle.

Until within a year or two, it was safe to go to Texas and buy a drove of cattle, and get the land afterwards, but it is safe now to get the land first, and buy the cattle afterwards. 160 acres of Government land can be held by building a log cabin on it and occupying it. In estimating the cost of cattle I do not take into account the expense of the land." After giving the details of the cost of 4000 cattle and 60 horses, he said 'the total cost will be in round numbers $8000; the profits on the growth of the cattle will be from 20 to 40 per cent on the capital invested.

The number of cattle west of the Mississippi river is from 25 to 30 millions, which at $25 per head would be from 675 to 625 millions of dollars.

At the close of Mr. Kingman's remarks the audience were invited to ask questions which they did as follows, Mr. Kingman replying to them:

QUESTION.—Will you give us some of the details of keeping cattle in the winter?

MR. KINGMAN.—They take care of themselves; there will always be places where they can feed; we find it best not to feed them, for if we begin to feed they will depend on us and will not go in search for food themselves.

QUESTION.—How do you take care of your horses?

MR. KINGMAN.—They take care of themselves; they are turned out, and when wanted are caught.

QUESTION.—How do you take care of your cattle?

MR. KINGMAN.—Cattle, when traveling, have to be watched night and day. At the approach of night they seek for a level, smooth plain; a good cow boy should be a good singer; when he sings, "Home, Sweet Home," the cattle will at once become quiet.

QUESTION.—Why do you require so many horses?

MR. KINGMAN.—Horses that are kept at pasture cannot be worked all the time; after one day of hard driving they need a rest of five days.

QUESTION.—Is there not some losses of cattle?

MR. KINGMAN.—Yes, there is about two per cent, which we consider in making up our account of profits.

QUESTION.—Would you recommend many of our farmers, of limited means, to go out there and raise cattle?

MR. KINGMAN.—I think it is a good place out there, but what the future is to be we do not know.

QUESTION.—Do the cattle remain in the same place all the year?

MR. KINGMAN.—Not precisely; as the snow fills the valleys they are driven up where there are bare places.

QUESTION.—Is any of the land fenced?

MR. KINGMAN.—There are few fences, except those made by Englishmen, who are inclined to monopolize the land by fencing across a valley.

QUESTION.—Cannot herds of cattle be kept separate?

MR. KINGMAN.—No, they cannot; but three or four herds, of four thousand each, can be kept together.

QUESTION.—Will not this land be taken up for settlement?

MR. KINGMAN.—The land is Government land, and it looks as though it would be, for a long time; in fact, it seems as though it was made for the purpose of cattle raising.

QUESTION.—The question is, what are you going to do with the surplus cattle?

MR. KINGMAN.—There will always be a demand for beef.

The PRESIDENT said, having considered the subject of cattle raising in a money point of view, I will now introduce you to one who will consider it in a higher point of view. Mr. ALONZO BRADLEY, of Lee, will speak to you on

"Breeding Domestic Animals."

MR. BRADLEY'S REMARKS.

There is probably no subject of more importance than the breeding of animals. Only a few years ago the idea of having a breed of cattle for any particular purpose was scouted at, but efforts in this direction have been made by the importation of cattle. Cattle were imported into this country as early as 1610, but not until 1770 were any cattle imported for the especial purpose of obtaining an improved breed for a particular purpose, and it was not until 40 years after that another effort was made.

It is now considered of the highest importance to select stock of good blood. In ten years the price of cattle has risen ten dollars. Never before was there such desire manifested for improved dairy stock as at the present time. The effect which a thoroughbred bull has on the progeny of the common cow is wonderful indeed; but in the selection of an thoroughbred bulls care should be taken to select from families that are good milkers when cows for milking qualities are desired. I should not hesitate to breed a bull with his own family, if they are in full health, but if there be any defects they will be likely to increase by in-and in breeding. There was never a time in the world's history when good stock sold for better prices than the present. The great stumbling block in the way of progress in cattle breeding is the lack of perseverance.

If a breed of cattle will yield a large quantity of milk, they should also be made good for beef; we want a cow that will be good for both beef and milk. It is often said that the farmer does not want beef, but this is not so; this is a most important item to be considered.

At the time of the organization of the Lee Farmers' Club there was not a full blood animal in town; now there is $100,000 worth of blood horses and $50,000 worth of blood cattle. It is difficult for farmers to realise the full value of blood stock. Look back 33 years and answer, has there been any improvement in cattle? It is a fact that we have a distinct American breed. Why not use the same effort to improve our stock that we do to improve our seed corn. The farmers as a class are slow to adopt improvements, even in their farm labor. To speak feelingly, the farmers are slow to adopt new things, while the mechanic is awake and ready to adopt every improvement.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE.

QUESTION.—Do you find better milk cows here than in other countries?

ANSWER.—If I were to select 500 cows I should not go out of America.

QUESTION.—Do you ever expect to have American breeds of cattle?

ANSWER.—I have no doubt we shall in time.

In regard to breeds I have been looking up the breeding of Jersey stock; the greatest results have been obtained in both milk and butter qualities. In breeding, if we would make progress, we must be careful not to breed animals together that have undesirable qualities. After a family has been inbred to the full extent and is then crossed with another family, it will carry its particular traits for many generations.

In Holland the farm and the cattle go to the son from one generation to another. The process of the improvement of the cattle is slow but persistent; they probably sell their poor cattle and breed only from the best and thus secure points necessary to make first class dairy stock.

REMARKS OF AVERY P. SLADE.

MR. SLADE of Somerset member of the Board of Agriculture, being called upon said:

Our land is too poor for stock raising; We produce milk for Fall River. Most of people have been slow to introduce improved stock 25 years ago you would be troubled to find Jersey stock, but gradually it has been introduced, until now one cannot ride through the county without seeing them in almost every town.

REMARKS OF CAPT. BRYANT.

Capt. BRYANT of Mattipoisett, being called upon to speak for Alaska, said, that when he went he found rough cattle there, but some better ones had been obtained from San Francisco. When he came away, they were doing fairly well for both milk and butter. The climate is so damp, hay cannot be made, so it was imported for horses.

While Mr. Bryant was giving a highly interesting account of the habits and the profits of the seal, the dinner hour was announced to the apparent regret of all present, for though many no doubt were hungry, the desire to hear more of the interesting information Mr. Bryant was giving was more keen than their appetites.

The people of Middleborough entertained the entire company, giving them a good farmer's dinner. More than 400 persons were present.

After dinner the Middleborough Glee Club gave a half hour's entertainment of the most delightful music, which was highly enjoyed by the audience.

The PRESIDENT, in a few well chosen remarks, introduced as the speaker of the afternoon, JOHN E. RUSSELL, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture. His subject was

"The Rational Treatment of the Horse."

LECTURE BY JOHN E. RUSSELL.

Under the impression that the lecture was to be one that Mr. Russell had before given to the public, and feeling that the report of the morning session would be somewhat lengthy, no effort was made to report it, but after listening to it, and finding it to be almost entirely new, and filled with important and highly interesting facts, a keen regret was felt for not having reported it.

Mr. Russell's lecture was confined principally to the front feet of the horse. He urged the importance of proper shoeing, and illustrated on the blackboard the structure of the foot, in both its natural and diseased condition, said that shoes ought to be set as often as once a month; that they should be light in weight, and should not be fitted by heating them red hot; declared that horses are not lame in the shoulders, but in the feet; believed that many horses could be driven most of the time without shoes.

The lecture was listened to with marked attention by an intelligent audience, that filled almost every seat in the large Hall.

This is the first Institute that has been held under the management of President Cushman, and was a great success in every particular.

The Dairy.

WINTER TREATMENT OF MILCH COWS.

(Country Gentleman.)

The aim in the treatment of milch cows in winter, should be to continue the conditions of summer as nearly as possible. This requires comfortable quarters, not only against the inclemency of the weather, but in all else that relates to the well being of the cow—such as warm stables, but not too warm; ventilation, to control temperature and admit fresh air, but not directly on the animals; floor well littered with fine vegetable material, to absorb fluids and odors, aided by plaster, thus securing a clean, dry, soft bed to lie and stand on; carding; plenty of good water, conveniently obtained; occasional out door airing and exercise, without rash exposure to cold and wet, getting as much sunlight as possible and avoiding great changes of temperature; kind treatment, making the cow feel at home. Give food to meet her requirements; if in calf, let the nitrogenous element be well represented, and let the feed be largely of a succulent character, to keep in line with the summer diet, such as roots or ensilage, with early cut clover, well cured. Feed early and late, and a few times during the day, keeping the cow mostly employed with slight feeds between the two principal rations, the night serving for the rest. Begin the winter feed early, in order to avoid exposure to inclement weather, and to realize a late fall and winter harvest of butter, for which a superior price is obtained.

It is a great fault with many farmers to allow their cows the range of the farm, thus getting more exercise than is good for a milch cow, trampling the fields and making muddy paths, while the frost bitten food that they pick is of reduced benefit, and leaves the fields bare and exposed to the winter's severity. It is an error to suppose that late grass, frost bitten and bleached, is of more value as feed than for protection and plant food. Leaving the grass unfed is in effect green manuring, without the expense of turning it under.

By thus favoring our cows also. By putting them up early requires attention, but pays well, as now the time can be well afforded, and the cows are continued in good condition without break, yielding a continual liberal supply of milk. All rash changes in feed and in treatment should be avoided, and above all, do not intermit the kindness in the least, without which a milch cow will never do her best. There is nothing new in all this, which makes it so much the better, as it has the experience of the most successful dairymen, yielding the largest quantity of the best milk and an increased percentage of butter from it beside benefiting the cows.

FLAX.

Flax will grow on any kind of soil that produces wheat, oats, barley, corn or potatoes

trast with the more dense aspect of other trees.

37. Gymnocladus canadensis. The Kentucky Coffee Tree. Height 30 feet; breadth 40 feet; girth 3 feet.

Another of the native trees which I have already noticed in the *Ploughman*, but it is so really ornamental that I can urge every lover of trees to introduce it into any ornamental plantation.

38. Cercis canadensis. The Judas tree. Height 15 feet; breadth 10 feet; girt 15 inches.

A low growing tree, scarcely more than fifteen feet high, but very showy and beautiful in spring, when its branches are completely covered their entire length with its small bright pink blossoms. It is a native, growing from Canada to Virginia along the banks of rivers.

The European species (C. Siliquastrum) is a larger growing and more ornamental tree, but it is not hardy in New England.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1884.

☞ *Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.*

THE PRESIDEITIAL ELECTION.

The official count of the vote of New York State was concluded on Saturday last, the result deciding the election in favor of Gov. Cleveland of that State. His plurality in that State was 1025 votes. Thus is the question of who shall be President of the United States for the coming four years peacefully decided. All sides feel relieved of the suspense which hung over the final result from the day succeeding the election. There is a general disposition to acquiesce in the legally ascertained determination of the people and to unite in a common support of our institutions, and of the government which protects and guards them, in a spirit of genuine patriotism. Although the prolonged contest could not be said to be an aid to the movements of business, it was not deemed a positive obstruction to them, either. Business affairs will take on new life as soon as all the business conditions conspire to stimulate it, and not much before. It is a great relief, however, to have settled the presidential issue for the next four years, although political issues can never be regarded as settled as long as there is room for divided opinions on questions of public policy.

Indications point to an amicable adjustment of the Franco-Chinese troubles.

The first snow of the season has been chronicled in various quarters of the country, and as far south as Baltimore.

The supply of money continues in abundance, with easy rates for good paper. The demand for money is from indifferent to fair.

The British commission has entered a formal protest against the recent advance of Russian pickets in Afghanistan.

The Metropolitan Telegraph and Telephone Company of New York has taken action experimentally toward carrying its wires underground.

THE FORESTS A NECESSITY.

An interesting and highly instructive article appears in the November number of the Popular Science Monthly, on the new method adopted in France for fighting floods in the valleys, called by an expert "drowning the torrent in vegetation;" that is, turfing the higher and more level pastures, and then retarding the flow of water down the steeper slopes below the pastures by trees, bushes, fallen leaves and mosses, so that much of it would have time to soak into the ground and reach the spring reservoirs, and another large portion be absorbed by the fallen leaves, etc., and held as by a sponge, or be taken up by the growing vegetation and to hold back the remainder by millions of small obstacles so that it would reach the stream no faster than a full channel could carry it away; and, finally, that flowing at no point over bare soil, it might reach the stream bed as limpid as when it started down hill.

Professor Guyot taught that variety of coast outline, of elevation, of climate, and natural products is necessary for the best development of individual and social humanity; and that nowhere in the world were so many of these favoring conditions combined as in the countries bordering on the Mediterranean. Around this great central sea lay the countries composing the Roman Empire; and for that reason it had the best situation of any of the great empires that have ever existed. As the writer of the article referred to describes it—the grouping and arrangement of the land and water masses; the diversity of elevation and of coast outline; the rich and varied scenery; the wide range of animal, vegetable and mineral products; the great number of populous, wealthy and nobly built cities with the marvellous Roman roads binding them together, and the majestic Roman law co-ordinating their civic life, all co-operated to make this region the garden of the world.

It has been so nearly ruined as it has by the selfish and short sighted treatment of its forest, which was its most precious possession; and the result ought to have been a lesson to all future settlers of new territory. It has been little headed by the settlers of our own country, however, as is frequently attested by the increasing frequency and severity of floods and droughts and the swift and menacing approach of timber famine. By the short sighted cutting of timber from steep hill sides, and the no less short sighted over pasturing of the cleared spaces afterward with sheep and goats, these streams were mostly, in the upper part of their courses, changed into torrents, whose beds in dry weather are 'cheerless expanses of sand and gravel.' Professor Guyot stated that he had known the warm wind coming from Sahara and absorbing moisture in crossing the Mediterranean to melt six feet of snow in twenty four hours on the mountains as it struck their sides; and the torrent channels would be almost instantly filled with furious, short lived floods, which often sweep off bridges, building, crops, and even animals and human beings, besides tearing up costly roads and washing away a vast amount of precious soil from the mountain sides, where it is rarely needed, and depositing it in rivers and harbors, where it is a nuisance and often a serious peril to navigation.

Besides all this, the stripping of steep land of its covering of trees causes the failure of springs; and dry springs mean parched pastures, small crops, and unprofitable husbandry. The water of precipitation, which should be delayed upon the hillsides by the roots, sprouts, mosses, fallen leaves ect., which fill and cover the surface of the ground under a forest, till it can find the underground spring sources, runs off the bare slopes in a few hours. Then the diminution of the wood supply increases the cost of buildings, bridges, furniture, and implements of all sorts. Railroad ties become scarcer. Wood for fuel and structural uses, is made more difficult to procure, and the further it has to be sought the more expensive it becomes. And floods make the maintenance of roads difficult and costly, besides increasing the expense of hauling necessaries over them. And, finally, scarcity of timber means the cessation of many lucrative industries which use wood for their raw material. These industries are specially desirable, too, as furnishing employment during portions of the year when agriculture or the care of the flocks does not occupy all of the the farmer's time.

Last of all comes as a consequence of the destruction of forests the derangement of climate and rainfall. Even allowing that it is not certain that more rain will fall in a year upon a well wooded than upon a bare region, it at least is certain that what does fall will not evaporate and be carried away by the winds as quickly. That is much. And it is also known that sudden changes of temperature and the resulting violent winds are also less liable to occur where woods abound. And a forest is the best barrier against wind, because it divides its force and does not stop it all at once, which would cause eddies and rebounds that may do damage elsewhere. These are plain but potent facts, and challenge the serious reflection of all who can comprehend and appreciate them.

MASS. STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Country Meeting.

All enterprising and progressive farmers who cultivate a love of agriculture instead of pursuing their calling in a perfunctory way, welcome the annual announcement of the Country Meeting of the State Board with an eager pleasure, and prepare for the satisfying enjoyment of its three day sessions. The Meeting is be held this year at Great Barrington, on the 2d, 3d and 4th days of December,—directly after Thanksgiving week. Those who contemplate being present will be obliged to reach Pittsfield on the Monday preceeding, if they would participate in the opening exercises, which are appointed for 10 A. M. on the following day. We stated last week that Secretary Russell had been for some time actively engaged in completing arrangements for speakers and topics for discussion, and that he had made good progress toward the perfection of the desired plan. The topics selected and the speakers so far positively engaged furnish abundant evidence that the occasion is to be one of great interest and will invite an increased attendance of the farmers of the State.

Among the subjects of the papers which are to be read are—"Pastures," "The Utilisation of Sewage," "The Effect of Water on Crops," "Tree Planting," "Plants in their Relation to Disease," "Poultry," "Exzootic Abortion in Cows," "Shorthorns in Massachusetts," and "Polled Cattle" and "Hereford Cattle." The "Hindrances to Successful Farming" will furnish the theme for an address. These will sufficiently suggest the character of the exercises. It will thus be seen that the Country Meeting is an occasion for work, and not for mere display. It is the assemblage of men of ideas tried in the crucible of practical experience, and not a mere field day for exploiting the special good fortune or the accomplishments of any. Hence its abiding value to the agricultural community, which is stimulated to increased endeavor by what is there said and done. It amounts to a comparison of the results of practical studies in the various departments of agricultural industry. What better or happier conception of a working agency in the interests of farming could be formed?

It is solely with these interests in view that we urgently appeal to every farmer in the State who can possibly be present at the Meeting to avail himself of this most favorable opportunity for enlarging his ideas as well as for multiplying them. Such a convention, held at the opening of the winter season, ought to be represented in the fullest manner by those to whom it exclusively addresses its purpose. Let farmers show the same zeal for these aids and stimulants in their vocation, and they will have no more reason to complain that all other interests in our common life are the subject of public attention but their own. And these meetings and clubs and conventions and fairs help wonderfully too, in the cultivation and expansion of the social side of farming life, to make it attractive and desirable. This is no more to be overlooked than the other part of the matter. The oftener farmers come together to discuss and compare things that are common to all, the better for their social standing and stability and for the advancement of their interests and calling.

THE CATTLE MEN'S CONVENTION.

They are called Cattle Kings, and that is about what they are. They opened their first national convention in St. Louis on Monday of the present week, delegates being present from nearly all the Western States and Territories, and from several Eastern States, Mexico, England, and Scotland. The originator of the project, Col. R. D. Hunter, of St. Louis, called the meeting to order and announced the object of the gathering to be the formation of a national league of cattle interests for the mutual good. A warm discussion ensued over the method of making up the committees on credentials and permanent organization, but the resolution allowing each stock association, in place of each State, to be represented in the convention was carried. General Sherman was on the stage, and made a brief address in response to earnest calls on him. An amusing feature of the convention is a cowboy band from Fort Dodge, Kansas, twenty men strong, in full frontier costume. They played a number of selections, evoking loud applause. In place of a baton, the leader of the band wielded a silver mounted derringer pistol, nearly a foot long.

A truly enormous amount of wealth is represented by the delegates to the Convention. Perhaps the largest and richest stock association in the country is the Texas Live Stock Association. It extends nearly all over the State of Texas, and embraces in its membership a large number of the members of fourteen district Associations. The Association, according to its secretary, owns 1,000,000 head of cattle, another million head of sheep, and 350,000 horses; and a moderate estimate of their total value is $45,000,000. The Southern Texas Live Stock Association is the largest of the district organizations, owning 420,000 head of cattle, 450,000 horses, and a large number of sheep, the aggregate value of stock being over $9,000,000. They also own 4,650,000 acres of land, valued at $11,625,000, making the value of their entire property about $21,000,000. They employ 1500 men as herders. Then there are in Texas, besides, the Northwest Texas Cattle Raisers' Association, the Colorado and Brazos Cattlemen's Association, and the Colorado and Concho Stock Association, all of which own immense herds and send large delegations to the Convention.

Seven Associations in New Mexico send representatives, the largest being the Northern New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, whose range practically covers three counties, and embraces 15,000,000 acres, on which graze 800,000 head of cattle, besides a large number of horses. The New Mexico Associations are the Aqua Caliente, with 240,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $2,500,000; the Wagon Mound Association, with 170,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $2,000,000; the Lincoln County Association, with 400,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $8,000,000; the Central New Mexico Association, with 500,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $6,000,000; the Donna Anna Association, with 85,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $1,000,000; and the Southwestern Association, with 90,000 head of cattle and a capital of $2,000,000. The largest ranch interest owned or controlled by St. Louis men, whose headquarters are in that city, is that of Hunter & Evans, embracing a number of ranches in Texas, Indian Territory, Kansas and Nebraska. It includes 286,000 head of cattle in all, a capital of $562,000, and the control or ownership of 11,464,000 acres of land.

Next comes the Continental, with 95,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $2,700,000, and in land, 924,880 acres; the Clark Cattle and Land Company, with 80,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $500,000, and in land 800,000 acres; the Niobrara Cattle Company, with 31,000 head of cattle and a capital of $200,000, and in land 3,000,000 acres; the Rainor Cattle Company, with 18,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $250,000, and in land 100,000 acres; and the St. Louis Cattle Company, with 15,000 head of cattle, and a capital of $300,000, and in land 200,000 acres. These, with one or two small concerns, make an aggregate cattle interest, operated in St. Louis, of 821,000 head of cattle, $4,437,000 of capital, and 15,608,880 acres of land.

The above statements make together a stupendous aggregate. It presents some sort of a conception of the size to which the cattle business has grown within United States territory, and gives a faint idea of its immense proportions in the future. We can begin to realize the dimensions of the cattle interest, and the vast importance of the cattle trade, both domestic and foreign, in running through the above figures, and trying to make reality of them in our imaginations.

THE PRODUCE MARKET.

The near approach of Thanksgiving imparts a life to everything about the market that is a welcome sight to those who have been waiting so patiently for even a symptom of a stir. By the opening of next week we may expect to find matters interestingly lively. In the poultry line always an extensive one at this season, dealers are preparing this week for a large and active trade. Consignments of turkeys of a choice grade began to be delivered by the middle of the week. The prices are very conservative at present, sales ranging from 16 to 18 cents per pound, but the expectation is of an improvement on Saturday and Monday next, when large fat turkeys will be coming in. Shippers will consult their own interests by not forwarding consignments later than either of the above days. Chickens bring now 15 to 17 cents per pound, but they are not the favorite poultry when good turkeys abound at reasonable prices. The time for geese has not yet come; they claim Christmas for themselves, as turkeys claim Thanksgiving.

The butter market offers no particular change from last week in quotations, there being but little activity manifested. The stock prices on the whole are reported easier. The finest fresh grades continue in demand, the lower grades having rather to seek purchasers by offering concessions in prices. The best creamery sells at 30@31 cents per pound in trade lots, and 32@35 cents in small lots. The West is now principally relied on for supplies, which imparts to the market in that section a new interest. First rate summer creameries, if forced on the market, would not bring over 25 cents. Fine dairy selections in cheese lots might go off at 28@30 cents. The fresh dairy butter is now ranked with winter butter. Summer dairies that have been kept in the country will not bring over 17@19 cents, which in the season would have brought 20 cents per pound. Farmers thus learn at their own cost the impossibility of keeping butter without ice. The grades of butter are so much improved in relation to the public taste that what was rated as extra a few years ago is now accepted only as common.

Cheese is steady, with but little doing. September and October stock is held stiffly at 12½@13 cents per pound, but the settling price is 12½ cents. The factories are winding up their business, and little more cheese can be expected this season. Foreign advices indicate that fall cheese will be wanted at Liverpool at full current rates, and all that can be had. There is no change in the export movements of both butter and cheese. The margin for shippers at current rates is a very narrow one.

The delivery of apples in Boston last week was 60,000 barrels and over, or an average of 10,000 barrels a day. The weather has been peculiarly favorable for moving them to market. Receipts are expected to continue on the same large scale so long at least as the weather favors. Choice grades range from $1.50 to $2.00 per barrel, some fancy varieties going up to $3 00. The shipment from Boston last week were 17,000 barrels, and the prospect is for an equal shipment the present week. The Liverpool market is so well supplied that a fall of 50 cents per barrel is reported. About 130,000 barrels have been exported from Boston since September 1st.

Eggs are not in such supply as is suited to the demand. Stale lots are not in request, but strictly fresh eggs demand from 28 to 30 cents dozen, though generally they bring only 26@27 cents. Good lime eggs bring 20@21 cents per dozen, and have the preference over held stock.

The prices of pea and yellow beans hold low, the market being well supplied. The crop of Vermont pea beans brings not less than $2.00 per bushel in car lots, while New York peas are offering some lots at $1.70. Choice mediums are selling at $1.70 to $1.75 per bushel. Job lots bring about 15 cents more. Yellow eyes are scarce, and in large lots bring $2.30 per bushel.

Potatoes are active above all other products, the trade being in a booming condition. Fancy cars of Rose and Beauty of Hebron command from 55 to 58 cents, but they run mostly from 50 to 53 cents in car loads. Receipts from Maine are comparatively light, owing to the high views of the farmers in that section. The supply at present is chiefly from Vermont and New York. Boston buyers get all they want from the latter State at 30 cents per bushel, which means 43 cents when they reach here. Few Nova Scotia potatoes have arrived.

The Marshfield Agricultural Society held its annual meeting on Monday, Nov. 18, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:—Geo. M. Baker, President; F. P. Arnold and Edwin Reed, Vice Presidents; F. Collamore, M. D., Secretary and Treasurer; L. P. Hatch, Esq., Auditor; Frank Ford, Barker Sprague, Geo. J. Peterson, Bailey Chandler, James W. Sampson, Capt. Joseph Davies, Hiram Randall, Thomas Alden, Chas. O. Ellms and James West, Directors; Daniel E. Damon, Esq., Delegate to the State Board of Agriculture. Some good corn was exhibited that was grown by Chas. Wright of Marshfield. On 7½ acres about 700 bushels was raised.

Following the Hounds.—Monday after noon, Nov. 17, the Myopia Hunt Club met at Dedham, and afterward engaged in an exciting drag hunt. About 2 o'clock, about twenty riders and gentlemen in vehicles met at Mr. George A. Nickerson's residence, where a lunch was partaken of, after which the entire "meet" moved forward in procession. The riders proceeded to Sandy Valley, while the vehicles, consisting of tally hos, tandem teams and other conveyances proceeded to Hyde Park, in the vicinity of Fox Hill, at which place the riders and hounds were to pass At 3.30 o'clock the hounds were let loose at Sandy Valley. The dogs, twenty in number, took the scent and were followed closely by the riders. The scene was most exciting as the horses cleared the stone walls in the passage through the fields. The The trail took the dogs to West Dedham, thence to Westford Street, and thence to the residence of Mr. Nickerson again. The course was five miles. The gentleman was thrown by the breaking of a stirrup, but he was not injured The ladies and their escorts thoroughly appreciated the afternoon's sport.

☞ The comparatively new drink, called "*Lactart*," or the Acid of Milk, has won a very rapid and wide reputation with the public. It is pronounced a most refreshing and healthful drink, greatly aiding digestion, and much superior to lemon or lime juice for dietetic purposes. It gives the same results as are obtained from sour milk or buttermilk. The chemical relation of Lactar with soda is identical with that of sour milk, forming a Lactate of Soda. Lac Tartar is more healthful than cream tartar and largely economical in cost. Three teaspoonfuls of it weigh about the same as two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar. Used in making bread, the results are a much softer dough than that of raised bread, biscuits are sweeter than cream tartar biscuits, and cake made with it possesses superior keeping qualities.

The Stover Windmill took the highest award, a silver medal, at the exhibition, just closed, of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association. As an indication of the power possessed by the Stover Windmill it may be stated that it is supplying an academy in this State with water through a pipe a mile in length and at an altitude of 161 feet. The "Stoves" is now thoroughly known in this part of the country, and the agents, Messrs. Henry W. Peabody & Co., State Street, Boston, are also exporting good numbers of this popular wind engine.

☞ *Harper's Monthly* for December is to course the Christmas and Holiday number. The contributed articles in prose and verse are—The Boy Jesus in the Temple, frontispiece; Flora, an engraving also by Closson; Christmas Past, by Charles Dudley Warner; She Stoops to Conquer, Part I, with twelve illustrations; Nature's Serial Story, illustrated; A Few Days' More Driving, by William Black, illustrated; Recent German Art; The Mythical Boat, illustrated; The Elevator, a Farce, by W. D. Howells, illustrated; Short Stories by Geo. H. Boughton, Saxe Holm, John Esten Cooke, F. D. Millet and Hugh Conway; Poems by E. C. Stedman, Margaret Sangster, Dr. Thomas Dunn English, Helen Gray Cone, Wallace Bruce, William Wordsworth and P. H. Stoddard. Many of the Short Stories and Poems are illustrated. The varied editorial department concludes what all readers will insist is a most brilliant number of an always brilliant magazine. For sale by Cupples, Upham & Co.

☞ A novel feature of the December number of *The Magazine of Art* will be the page contributed by Miss Alice Havers and Mr. R. L. Stevenson, the former supplying a picture setting to a verse by the latter. The page will be printed in color. In the same number will appear the commencement of a description of Hatfield House, the residence of the Marquess of Salisbury, fully illustrated, and a paper by Mrs. Fawcett on 'The New Forest.' An etching by Mr. R. W. Macbeth, will form the frontispiece.

☞ Mr. Francis Lathrop, whose fame as a decorative painter is well known in connection with the Metropolitan Opera House, and other public and private buildings, has made a handsome and striking design for the cover of *Cassell's Family Magazine*. The new cover will appear on the first number of the new volume for January, 1885, and will be ready December 12th, 1884.

READ AND RUN.

— The Cattle Kings' Convention assembled at St. Louis on Monday, representing an enormous amount of wealth.

— Deacon Daniel Goddard, one of Worcester's prominent business men of half a century ago, died on Sunday last at the age of eighty-four years.

— The drought of the past few months in Virginia remains unbroken. In some of the upper counties springs and streams are still drying up.

— Last week's wheat receipts at the great shipping centres of the West were the largest, ever known, and the shipments were the biggest except for the week ending Oct. 18, 1883.

— The sensational feature of a new opera bouffe in London is the introduction of real snakes on the stage. The heroine takes the part of a snake charmer. In one act she brings on the stage two large serpents, genuine *cobras di capello*, and twines them about her neck, her arms, and her waist, talking to them gently, and at least pretending to kiss them.

— It is understood in England that the government will present the redistribution bill to Parliament immediately after the House of Lords has passed the franchise bill. This programme forms the basis of a compromise between the Government party and the Conservatives.

— The little city of Nassau, on the island of New Providence, one of the West India group, has about 14,000 inhabitants, and is said to be the cleanest city in the world. This is partly because nearly everything in it, except the people and the vegetation, is made of a white rock, part coral and limestone. The streets are simply smooth beds of it, the houses are big boxes of it, the wharves are solid cubes of it, and the fences are slices of it set on end. The city looks white, and as it is built on a hillside sloping down to the sea, it keeps itself clean.

— In cases of suicide the London Lancet contends for "some rational endeavor to make the distinction apparent between insanity and life weariness." The Lancet refuses to put any faith in temporary insanity as a cause of or an excuse for self-slaughter, but insists that those who take their own lives do so, as a rule, with an intelligent consciousness of what they are doing.

— A very profitable industry in the manufacture of sherry wines is being carried on at Hamburg for the English and Dutch markets. The artificial wines, for export, were found to be composed entirely of sugar, water, alcohol and table salt.

— Cotton seed is pronounced the Southern bonanza. There are three and a half pounds of seed to every pound of fiber.

— Gov. Cleveland's majority in New York State is 1025, and he is consequently elected President of the United States.

— Mr. Blaine will leave home for Washington the middle of next week, where he will spend the winter with his family.

— A branch of the Salvation Army began its winter campaign in Worcester last Sunday.

— Medals and diplomas have been awarded the exhibitors in the recent Fair of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association.

— The closing races of the Country Club for the season came off last Saturday at Clyde Park

— The Congo conference was formally opened at the residence of Prince Bismarck in Berlin on Saturday last.

— The Mahdi is encamped within only a day's march of Khartoum, and General Gordon hopes to be able to hold out until the relief expedition reaches him.

— The Nile expedition, according to the estimates, will cost Great Britain $65,000 000.

— The second volume of Mr. Blaine's book, 'Twenty Years in Congress,' will be ready for publication next June.

— Heavy frosts are reducing the cholera mortality in Paris.

— The balance of trade and the gold movement are in our favor by reason of light importations. Since January 1, the importations at New York have been $31,000,000 less than last year, and $67,000,000 less than in 1882.

— The immigration movement in October was light, Ireland alone showing any increase in the contributions to it. The total arrivals for the past ten months were 414,324 against 501,037 in 1883.

— Notwithstanding the action of the railroad trunk line managers in agreeing to restore rates demoralization is the feature of the business and grain rates, which should have been restored to 25 cents per 100 pounds, are again cut to 15 cents.

— During the coming electrical exhibition at the Mechanics' Building in this city, the aisles of the hall will be known by such names as Magnet park, Incandescent avenue, Telephone avenue, Battery street, Filament Lane, Attraction Corridor, and so on. The exterior as well the interior of the building will be beautifully illuminated.

— In New York city there is a family hotel that is two hundred feet high and contains a thousand people.

— Hay products went out of the country during the year ended Oct. 31, in smaller quantity than in any like period since 1874–5.

— Poor meats and fish continue to be seized by the inspectors of provisions.

— Secretary McCulloch has issued a circular forbidding the unloading of old rags when shipped to America from foreign countries.

— Goldsboro, N. C., has also been swept by fire. And so has Brunswick, Ga.

— The naval advisory board has recommended the construction of twelve cruisers, to cost, when armed, equipped, and ready for use, nearly nine and a half million dollars.

— It is stated that President-elect Cleveland may tender the English mission to George William Curtis.

— The advisability of establishing a State home for inebriates in Massachusetts has been recently discussed before the State board of health, lunacy and charity.

— Although Lord Wolseley's camel corps has been made the subject of considerable badinage, the device is far from being a new one, having been tried by the great Napoleon on his celebrated invasion of Egypt. The camel proves himself fully equal to the proposed task of hauling supplies.

— The formal ceremony of opening the St. Petersburg new ship canal, which is to come off in the spring, will be made a famous occasion. It will turn the Russian capital into a commercial port. The project was begun seven years ago, and has already been successfully employed for the trial passage of men-of-war from Kronstadt to the mouth of the Neva, and thence up that river to St. Petersburg.

— Just one hundred years ago, eight small bags of cotton were sent from Charleston to England. It was the slender beginning of an annual export out of which has grown the prodigious trade of today.

— The New York Sun says that "general complaints of American cookery are absurd, especially when they come from Englishmen who measure us by so poor a gastronomic standard as their own."

— The British government has decided not to countenance the projected scheme for exploring the interior of New Guinea, as doing harm out of proportion to the good likely to result.

— The pauper population of England exceeds by some 100,000 the entire population of the great colony of New South Wales.

— A Berlin physician recommends eating a small piece of soap at stated intervals as a better remedy for dyspepsia and sour stomach than soda, magnesia, or lime water. Some people would about as soon take soap heavily as outwardly.

— The whales of the Pacific Ocean are reported to be hugging very closely the coast from San Francisco down to San Diego.

— Certain scientific papers say we are indebted to Pompeii for the canned fruit industry. Soon after the excavations of that long buried town had commenced, a party of Americans found some jars of preserved figs in the pantry of a lava covered house. The contents proved to be so good that during the next year fruit canning was introduced into the United States.

— A correspondent of the Boston Transcript writes—"I cured myself of an annoying habit of stammering by inhaling a deep breath between every few words, and by never allowing myself to speak unless the lungs were fully inflated."

— Mr. Dodge, statistician of the Department of Agriculture, has just returned from Ohio, and says there is pleuro-pneumonia in Ohio, and that the affected herds in that State are all composed of thoroughbred Jerseys, many of the animals having been imported, and are of great value. He thinks that the disease was carried west through Canada, and that there was not a single case west of the Alleghanies previous to 1884.

— Oregon and Washington Territory farmers are complaining of low prices, wheat in the interior netting the farmers only forty to fifty cents a bushel at the railway station.

— A London baker recently purchased 42,000 sacks of flour in one day.

— At Trinidad, 1000 steers were recently sold at $25 a head, delivery to be made at the rate of 200 a month.

— Australia is importing wheat from Cape Town, South Africa.

☞ One reason why Hunt's [Kidney and Liver] Remedy is so popular for the cure of diseases of the kidneys, liver and bladder, is that it shows immediate improvement in the condition of the patient and recovery is steady and certain. Its cures have been so wonderful that physicians of all schools prescribe it in their practice.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE REMINISCENCES.

BY CHARLES L. FLINT.

[From his remarks at Amherst on the occasion of laying the Corner Stone of the new Chapel and Library Building, Nov. 6, 1884.]

The act of Congress granting land scrip for the founding and maintenance of Agricultural Colleges, was passed on the 2nd of July, 1862. The act of the legislature of Massachusetts accepting the grant of Congress and incorporating the board of trustees was approved April 29, 1863. It constituted one from each county in the State, or fourteen in all, with the Governor of the State, the Secretary of the Board of Education, the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and the President of the College, as *ex officiis* members, making the full board of eighteen. The first meeting of this board was held on the 18th or November, 1863. It was organized by the choice of Gov. John A. Andrew as President, and Charles L. Flint as Secretary. The by-laws for the government of the board were adopted. A committee was chosen at that meeting to consider and receive proposals for the location. Proposals soon came in from Northampton, Lexington, West Springfield, Amherst and Chicopee. All these places were visited by the trustees, and meetings were held at which these towns were represented to present their claims.

At a meeting held March 17, 1864, a communication was received from President Hill of Harvard College with reference to a union with the Bussey fund, which would have connected the College with Harvard University. Governor Andrew earnestly advocated that plan, and it was favored and urged by Professor Agassiz and many other prominent men. At a meeting, held March 31, 1864, a committee was appointed to visit the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania. On the 25th of April, 1864, a meeting was held at the Massasoit House in Springfield, and the next morning several farms in Chicopee and West Springfield were examined with reference to a location, after which the board visited Northampton and examined various locations, holding a public meeting in the evening, at which meeting citizens appeared to urge the claims of the town. On Thursday morning, April 27, the board visited Amherst, and examined the farms of Mr. Cobb, the farms of Messrs. Cowles and others, and held a meeting at the hotel in the afternoon, when President Stearns, Edward Dickinson and others appeared to urge the claims of this town. At a meeting on the 4th of May, it was voted that the treasurer be required to give bonds to the satisfaction of the president and vice president in the sum of $20,000. At a meeting on the 25th of May, 1864, an informal ballot was taken on the location, where North Hampton had 3, Lexington 1, West Springfield, 4, and Amherst 8. A formal ballot was subsequently taken at the same meeting, when West Springfield had 3, Northampton 3, and Amherst 10 At a meeting June 14, 1864, Henry F. French was appointed agent to sell the land scrip.

On the 3d of August it was voted that the examining committee with the conditions of proposals for a location, provided Amherst does not give satisfactory evidence that on or before the 20th inst. it has complied with the conditions of an act which the Legislature had passed, requiring the town that received the college to donate $75,000 to put into new buildings. That hurried the trustees to arrange for the opening of the road on the 3d of October '64, several contracts for the purchase of the grounds on which we now stand had already been made on the 29th of November, 1864, after having established the term of office of the president of the college, "during the pleasure of the trustees." A ballot was taken for president when 12 votes were cast, of which Hon. Henry F. French had 8, and was elected the first president of the college. The president of the college and the secretary of the board of trustees were appointed a committee to consider and report a plan of organization of the college. At a meeting February 1, 1865, the plan of organization was submitted and approved by the board, and laid before the governor and council for their approval. The first and foremost among the departments are the departments of agriculture and horticulture and of any relating to rural affairs of which the president shall be professor. The governor and council thought it too pretentious but finally approved it.

On May 30, 1865 the committee on the location of the college buildings made its first report, and it was voted to authorize the committee to take measures to change the county road running through the farm. At a meeting the same year, the first steps were taken for the erection of any building for the college. The committee, led by its President went ahead with operations on the old road near the botanic museum, but a large part of the Board were dissatisfied with the location and a special meeting was called at Amherst on the 13th of Oct. when the excitement arising from the difference of opinion was very great, but the President pushed on the work of excavation. Another meeting was called at my office in Boston, Nov. 1st, when the building committee were instructed to procure the services of a competent landscape gardener from New York to view the grounds and report upon the best location for the college and farm buildings. On Nov. 2, '65, it was voted that the President and secretary be instructed to prepare lists of such books as are necessary for the use of an agricultural library, and to submit the same to this Board. That was the foundation of the present college library, and the corner stone was really laid then. The Board met at Amherst Dec. 27, '65 to hear and consider the report of the landscape gardener and architect, Messrs. Faux and Richards, as to the location. The report recommended a location in the old county road near the present plant house. The Board was divided by a tie vote but the President kept on the work of excavation. A meeting was called at my office Jan. 2d, '66, when it was voted 9 to 6 that the building committee be instructed to locate the college building which is now projected to erect. Upon what is known as the Chestnut tree ridge, south of the present site. A meeting the purchase of the quarry at Pelham was authorized, at a cost not exceeding $500. On the 7th of Feb. '66, a plan and estimate for President's house was presented by the building committee. At a meeting May 2, '66, the first authority was given the executive committee to buy lime for the farm. Prof. Levi Stockbridge was employed to lay out the grounds and the main approach to the college building. His recommendations were not satisfactory.

On the 9th of October, 1866, President French resigned his office, and his resignation was accepted, and a committee consisting of Col. Wilder and the secretary was appointed to confer with President Chadbourne of Williamstown At a meeting November 7, 1866, the committee reported. A ballot was taken and Paul A. Chadbourne was unanimously elected president. At this meeting Levi Stockbridge was elected farm superintendent. January 4, 1867, President Chadbourne submitted plans for a dormitory, club-house and boarding hall, which were duly adopted. At the same meeting, Messrs. Hills of Amherst presented a bond to give $10,000 to establish a department of botany, and Dr. Hitchcock of Fall River proposed to add a like amount, and that was the origin of the plant house and museum. On February 6, 1867, it was voted that the college be opened on the 2nd of October next; tuition $36 a year.

On July 3, 1867, the resignation of President Chadbourne was accepted by a committee sent down of health, was received and read by the secretary. A meeting called on the 7th of August, 1867, elected Col. W. S. Clark as president of the faculty. Henry H. Goodell was appointed professor of French, military tactics, gymnastics, at the same meeting. On November 6, 1867, the first class having entered in October and thoroughly organized, it was voted to apply to the Legislature for $50,000 for the erection of additional buildings and further accommodations for the 272 students. In 1868 the treasurer was authorized to pay for photographs of the college building. May 11, 1868, the erection of North College was authorized, to be located midway between the present dormitory and the laboratory, the east end on a line with the front of the laboratory. At the same meeting Dr. Charles A. Seaman of Syracuse, N. Y., was appointed professor of chemistry.

Union Grange.—Southboro Grange has the honor of taking the iniative in starting the "Borough Union Grange," which met for organisation at Southboro Town Hall, on Wednesday, Nov. 12th. Representatives from Hudson, Westboro, Marlboro and Southboro Granges, to the number of about 126 were present, and after a little preliminary talk voted to elect officers. The master, lecturer and secretary were chosen by ballot and the remaining officers were constituted an executive committee entirely for the purpose, and subsequently elected by acclamation. There seemed to be but one mind as to who could best fill the master's chair, and Arthur A. Brigham's election was made unanimous. The other officers were as follows:—overseer, Jas. Martin, Hudson; lecturer, C. H. Howe, Marlboro; chapain, Josiah S. Welsh, Hudson; secretary, Lessie V. Brnce, Hudson; treasurer, Simeon Bruce, Hudson; steward, B. H. Hapgood, Hudson; assistant steward, Chas. Jennison, Southboro; gate keeper, S. W. Rice, Westboro. L.A.S., M. C. McMaster, Southboro; Ceres, Susie F. Ames, Hudson; flora, Mrs. Mary Robinson, Hudson; pomona, S. E. Harvey. Following these elections came the dinner on the picnic plan, and a "bang up" dinner it was too, for the waiters were all members of the bachelors and widowers didn't attend to business. With the newly elected officers in their places, the afternoon session took up the Grange work and its relation to the agriculture of the State and of the Nation."

One essay was read by Sister Harvie of Southboro, on the short ballot reform and a talk by Bro. Jas. Martin of Westboro, Barnard of Marlboro, Locke of Framingham, Simpson of Southboro, Rice of Westboro, Welsh and Bassett of Hudson, A. M. Brigham of Marlboro, Sister Bassett of Hudson and Bro. Wm. H. Earle of Worcester. The latter held the close attention of his audience with his quaint humor and pleasing style. Some of all the speeches was pithily put into one sentence by Bro. A. M. Brigham, who said that the relation of the grange to agriculture was that of marriage, and that the grange was the better half in the compact. About the middle of the afternoon Bro. Felton of Sherborn came into the hall and was prevailed upon to read one of his poems. The next meeting of this body will be a large one, and Hudson, at which place it is to be held, will get the grandest raking up it ever experienced.—Marlboro Mirror.

— Twenty millions of people in Austria, Hungary, it is estimated, never see a paper.

"IT HAS MADE A NEW MAN OF HIM."

So writes the wife of the Rev. Dr. Staples, of New Canaan, Conn., in a communication to the *Methodist Protestant*, Baltimore, Md. Mrs. Staples says:

"My husband has for the last year and a half been afflicted with that troublesome disease Malaria, attended also with Catarrh, which was raddily growing upon him. He was so feeble at the session of our last 'Conference' that he thought a week or two previous he would not be able to attend. He commenced inhaling Compound Oxygen, and put himself fully under the Treatment at my earnest request, the week before "Conference," and it astonished to see its *wonderful effects*. It was almost immediately manifest in an increase of appetite, which had become entirely lost, and in a few days it was *gradually increasing in strength and vitality. In fact it has made a new man of him.*"

Our "*Treatise on Compound Oxygen*," containing a history of the discovery and mode of action of this remarkable curative agent, and a large record of surprising cures in Consumption, Catarrh, Neuralgia, Bronchitis, Asthma, etc., and a wide range of chronic diseases, will be sent *free*. Address Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1109 and 1111 Girard St., Phil.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

(By the President.)

President Arthur Appoints Thursday, Nov. 27th.

Washington, Nov. 7.—By the President of the United States of America—

A Proclamation:

The season is nigh when it is the yearly wont of this people to observe a day appointed for that purpose by the President as an especial occasion for thanksgiving unto God. Now, therefore, in recognition of the hallowed custom, I, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, do hereby designate as such day of general thanksgiving, Thursday, the 27th day of this present November. And I do recommend that throughout the land the people ceasing from their accustomed occupations do then keep holiday at their several homes and their several places of worship, and with heart and voice pay reverent acknowledgment to the Giver of all good for the countless blessings wherewith he hath visited this nation. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the city of Washington this, the seventh day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and ninth. Chester A. Arthur.

By the President,
Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.

(By the Governor.)

COMMON

Loss and Gain.

CHAPTER I.

I was taken sick a year ago
With bilious fever."
ctor pronounced me cured, but I go
with terrible pains in my back and
I got so bad I
t move!

8 lbs. to 120! I had been doctoring my
did me no good. I did not expect to
than three months. I began to use
rs. Directly my appetite returned,
eft me, my entire system seemed re-
if by magic, and after using several
m not only as sound as a sovereign,
more than I did before. To Hop
we my life." R. FITZPATRICK.
June 6, '81.

CHAPTER II.

, Mass., Feb. 1, 1880. Gentlemen—
ith attacks of sick headache,"
s, female trouble, for years in the
le and excruciating manner.
cine or doctor could give me relief or
I used Hop Bitters.
ot bottle
ured me;"
nd made me as well and strong as
ld,
have been so to this day."
and was an invalid for twenty years
ney
, liver and urinary complaint,
e of it by Boston's best physicians— I
le is
dies of your Bitters cured him and I
e
f eight persons"
ighborhood that have been saved by
rs,
my more are using them with great
s.
almost
cles?" —*Mrs. B. D. Slack.*

GET SICK.—Expose yourself day and
too much without exercise; work too
ot rest; doctor all the time; take all
strums advertised, and then you will
ow *How to get well*, which is answered
words—Take Hop Bitters!
e genuine without a bunch of green
he white label. Shun all the vile
stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in
(31y) nov22-4t

er, Bachelder & Co.

IVE ATTENTION TO THEIR

LING SILVER TABLE

and fancy Presentation

Sheffield Table Cutlery;

locks: French Bronzes;

Pottery and Ornaments

MARKET, BOSTON

Retail Prices.

rrectly for the Plaughman, for the week ending Nov. 22.

BEEF, &c.			
b..	5@28	Beef Liver.....	5@8
.....	12@17	Beef Tongue.....	14@8
.....	12@17	Corned Beef.....	12@8
.....	8@12	Smoked Beef.....	17@20
.....	8@12	Beef Tongue, salt.	10@8
.....	5@10	Press Tripe.....	7@8
Pork, Lard, &c.			
.....	10@11	Smoked Should's.	10@11
rips..	8@10	Smoked Ribs....	10@11
.....	10@11	Sausage.....	8@11
ulders	9@10	Pigs' Feet.....	5@6
.....	10@11	Lard, leaf.....	9@10
Veal and Mutton.			
.....	12@20	Mutton, qr'rs..	14 @ 20
.....	10@12	Mutton, sh'ds & l.	10@14
.....	10@12	Egg Lamb, r'b..	18@
per pound			17@20
ices, w b			30
Poultry, Game, &c.			
.....	20@25	Pigeons, wild, doz..	60
.....	17@20	Philadel.spuabs	@ 90
.....	18@20	W digeon, pair	40@ 75
.....	18@20	W ood'k, pair...	50@ 60
.....	18@20	Snipe, dozen..	200@ 300
.....	18@20	Peep, dozen..	@ 100
.....	1 50@2 00	Brant, 4 pair	200@ 300
.....	@1 00	Yellow-legs, don	150@ 200
.....	@1 00	Plover, dozen..	100@ 150
.....	1 25	Rabbits, each ..	12
.....	75 1 00	Venison, s'ds.	10@ 20
.....	@1 00	Woodcock, each	60@ 80
.....	@1 00	Pigs, roasting..	@5 00
d Back, pr			2 00@3 00
fed			@
Butter, Cheese, &c.			
rm.		Fair to good do...	@1
.....	22@23	Farm	13@14
.....	24@27	**EGGS.**	
.....	20@24	Cape.....	@ 30
.....	14@19	Eastern.....	@ 30
.....	@	Northern.....	@ 30
.....	@	Western.....	@ 26
Fruit and Vegetables.			
.....	30@ 50	Tomatoes, pk	@ 60
.....	50@ 75	Sw. Potat'es, bbl	@ 3 00
.....	@1 00	Sw. Potat'es, bsk	75@ 1 00
.....	@ 10	**VEGETABLES.**	
.....		Potatoes, pk	@ 25
.....		Sweet Pot's, lb	@ 10
.....	1@2 00	Turnips, pck	@ 25
.....		Beets, pck	@ 25
.....	10@ 15	Beans—	
.....		White, Y.-Pk	75@ 87
.....	12@ 15	Lima, qrt'd	@ 10
.....	50@1 00	Cabbages, each	@ 10
.....	2@ 3	Carrots, pck..	@ 30
.....	@ 30	Parsnips, peck....	@ 30
.....	@ 30	Onions, per pk..	@ 30
.....	@ 2	Cauliflowers ..	@ 50
.....	@ 10	Celery.....	@ 15
.....	@ 75	Lettuce, h'head	5@ 8
.....		quashes—	
.....	@ 30	Hubbard, lb..	@ 3
.....	@ 30	Marrow, lb..	@ 3
.....	@ 30	Turban.....	@ 3
.....	@ 25	Cucumbers, ea..	10@ 15
.....		Egg Plants, new	@ 50
.....	@ 10	Herbs, gr'n, b'ch	@ 5
.....	@ 50	Pickles—¶ gallon—	
.....	@ 25	Cucumbers ..	@ 75
.....	@ 15	Martinoes..	@ 75
.....	@ 15	Limes, qt.....	@ 15
.....	@ 25	Lychees Nuts,	
.....		cap, bush....	@
.....		per doz.....	@
.....	@	Rhubarb, lb ..	@
.....	@	Artichokes, pk	75@
.....		Tongues and	
.....		Sounds, ¶ lb	@ 12½
.....	12@ 15	Scollops, qt'..	@
.....	@ 25	Oysters, solids	@
.....		¶ gallon....	1 20@1 50
.....		Clams, gallon..	@
.....	@ 35	Quohaugs, sol.	@
.....	@ 25	¶ d, ¶ quart.	@
.....		Tautog	@
Crabs, doz			@

olesale Prices.

DE QUINCY MARKET

Beef, &c.			
Family, ¶	13 00	@14 00	
Tongue, ¶	23 00	@24 00	
Dressed Beef.			
Fore Quarters..	@6	@	
Rounds.....	@	@	
Ribs	@	@	

Pork, Lard, &c.

Mutton, qr'rs..	14	@	16
Mutton, sh'ds & l.	10	@	14
Egg Lamb, ¶ lb..	18	@	20
	17	@	20

Poultry, Game, &c.

Pigeons, wild, doz..	60	@	80
Philadel.spuabs	@	90	@
W digeon, pair	40	@	75
W ood'k, pair...	50	@	60
Snipe, dozen..	200	@	300
Peep, dozen..	@	100	@
Brant, 4 pair	200	@	300
Yellow-legs, don	150	@	200
Plover, dozen..	100	@	150
Rabbits, each ..	12	@	15
Venison, s'ds.	10	@	20
Woodcock, each	60	@	80
Pigs, roasting..	@5	00	@

Butter, Cheese, &c.

Fair to good do...	@1	@	
Farm	13	@	14
EGGS.			
Cape.....	@	30	@
Eastern.....	@	30	@
Northern.....	@	30	@
Western.....	@	26	@

Fruit and Vegetables.

Sw. Potatoes	2 75	@3	00
Onions, bbl..	1 50	@2	00
Beans, white—			
Medium, bu..	2 75	@3	00
Pea, bush..	2 00	@2	25
Squashes, cwt—			
Hubbard .	@	2	50
Boston Mar.	@	3	00
Marrow, bbl	1	00	@
¶ cwt.....	@	1	50
Quinces, bbl	5	00	@6 00
Pickles, bbl—1000	10	00	@12 00
Cucumber .	@	1	25
Limes.....	6	00	@
	1	00	@1
	50	@	60
		@	
		@	
		@

The Poet's Corner.

MY NEIGHBOR UP STAIRS.

All day long she singeth a song,
My little neighbor, over my head;
And half the night I can see her light
On the opposite houses glimmer red.
And I marvel much what her thoughts may be
Sitting alone in her garret there;
Is ever one of them all of me?—
Of me, alas! with the grizzled hair—
The painter willing and ready to paint
The head of an alderman or a saint,
Should fate or chance to his luckless door
Send one or both with a guinea or more.
And some have whispered, and whisper still;
"Worse daubs than that fellow's our chambers fill."

A week ago, a glimpse of her face
I caught as she passed by my biding-place;
And I treasured away the light of her eyes
In my heart, and worked it into my skies;
And to day in the head of my old friend Jack
Blue eyes I have painted instead of black.
An orphan she, this many a year,
Come from the green fields far away,
To toil in the heart of the city here
For a bare subsistance from day to day.
Hearken again to that click, click, click;
Was ever music so sweet before
As the fall of her foot on the trembling floor,
As she plies the treadle, now slow, now quick,
Of the fairy machine that wins her bread?
Ah, little neighbor over my head!
You have your trials, and I have mine—
I rough and bearish, and you divine.
You have your dreams of rest, present day,
I of the future. Well, who shall say
But that in the ages yet to be
Shall live some proof of my love for thee?
When folks shall say, "He could paint a girl
Better, in sooth, than a duke or earl."

I hear her foot on the creaking stair,
Softly she comes: ah, well-a-day!
I might have had a daughter as fair,
Had Love but triumphed and had his way.
I might have found by my lonely hearth
Laughter and music, and joy and mirth;
I might have had—but enough, enough,
Away with the past, and such sorry stuff!
Ah! there she trips with her nimble feet
Over the gutter and down the street.
Yet who, of all the many that pass,
Bestow a though: on my little lass?
Or the grizzled fogey who watches above,
Dreamily murmuring in his love,
"Perchance I may find a daughter yet,
And you a father, my little pet!"

—[Matthias Barr in Cassell's Magazine for December.

Ladies' Department.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

[Sunday Globe.]

When I was in London, in 1849, I was a frequent visitor at the house of a rich gentleman, Sir Robert Maxwell. I had been presented by a young friend of mine, Edward Morley, an engineer, who had already attained an enviable reputation.

Among the persons I met at Sir Robert's was a charming young girl, by the name of Mary Sinclair. Her father was dead, and she was constantly accompanied by her mother.

I was introduced to Mrs. Sinclair and her daughter by Edward, who seemed to know these ladies well. I observed from the first that Morley never spoke to Mary without a certain tremulousness in his voice and with an apparent constraint.

Among the number of those who surrounded Miss Sinclair, and who sought her favor, I remarked one who strove to please her more than all the others. He was a tall, well-formed man, who had already reached a mature age. His skin was brown and his hair black and abundant; his manners were brusque and haughty, and his voice cold and unsympathetic.

Edward, whom I questioned regarding this gentleman, told me that he had returned from India two months before, where, as he said, he had been a general in the service of the Indian princes, and had accumulated an immense fortune.

I watched with interest and astonishment the influence which he appeared to exercise over Mary, whose mind, through admiration or fear, submitted to his authority as the wave submits to the impression of the wind.

After several meetings with them, I made another discovery, and that was that every time that their conversations became prolonged Edward always approached and interrupted them. And a strange thing, the disdainful eye of Willison—that was the name of this personage—always lowered before the serene, but austere, look of Edward.

One evening, at a gathering at the Sinclairs, a young man named Eric Maccolen, presented by himself as a friend of the family, who had been absent for three months in Germany. Edward told me that he was the son of a rich and worthy man, who, while travelling in Germany, had made the acquaintance of a Pole, a count or something of that sort. A bearer of letters of credit to the most prominent bankers, this individual presently gained the confidence of Eric's father, and proposed to him to enter into an enprise for raising cattle in Poland. He succeeded in getting possession of the entire fortune of his new friend, leaving his letters of credit in his hands as security, and then disappeared.

All searches were in vain, not the slightest trace could be obtained of him. The old Maccolen applied to the Rothschilds to cash the letters of credit remaining in his hands, but the bankers replied that the letters were forged, and that they were endeavoring to find the forger.

Eric, learning of the catastrophe, hastened to Germany, but alas! he arrived too late! his father had died of a stroke of apoplexy.

Edward received him with open arms on his return; and welcomed him warmly. Willison did not know him; by chance they never met together the same evening in society.

Shortly after this I left London and spent three months in the capital of Scotland. On my departure for London again, as I intended to sail for Greece, I reached Birmingham in the evening, where I spent the night, desiring to visit some of the immense manufactories on the next day.

I resumed my journey the following afternoon. To my great joy, on entering the compartment assigned to me, I found already installed there—Edward.

I questioned him concerning Miss Mary; he replied evasively, as it seemed to me; that she still continued to be very beautiful; as to Eric, he said that his circumstances seemed to be improved, and as to Willison, that he was an odious man.

We chatted pleasantly, and the time flew by rapidly. At Rigby we stopped, and a train coming in the other direction rolled into the station and passed us on the right.

Suddenly I saw Edward change color. He seized me violently by the arm.

'Do you see?' he said to me.

'No,' I replied, and I leaned out of the window. At this moment our train started and I drew back my head.

'I saw him,' I said; 'it was Willison.'

'Willison!' cried Edward, becoming as pale as death. 'Willison! in which carriage was he?'

'In the third from the engine,' I replied.

'In the third carriage!' repeated Edward. Are you sure it was Willison?'

'There is no doubt of it.'

Edward pressed his hands upon his head and sank half fainting into his arms. Fortunately we were alone in the compartment.

'But what is it?' I asked, 'what is the matter with you?'

'In the third wagon,' he replied in a despairing tone, 'you saw Willison; in the same carriage I saw Mary. They are going to Gretna Green. We must stop them; we must save her before they arrive at Gretna Green—that horrible Gretna Green.'

'But how can you stop them?' I replied. 'They are going north and we south. Even if we could retrace our way and pursue them they would have a long distance the start of us.'

Edward remained silent for some moments, his face buried in his hands. Finally he said:

'In what I am going to do I need an assistant and a witness. I have no right to call upon you; still permit me to ask if you can and will devote two days to me?'

I should not have refused this service to a man whom I felt less interest in than Edward. I gave him my promise.

'But by what right,' I asked, 'can we pursue them and mix ourselves up in a matter which does not concern us?'

'What right!' cried Edward, and he remained for some moments plunged in thought. 'Leave that to me,' he added, finally. 'We have not only a right to pursue us, but a duty.'

He again concealed his face in his hands and remained silent, but he was greatly troubled, and was seized with a nervous impatience. Every minute he placed his face against the window to see if we were not approaching the next station.

As soon as we arrived we both leaped upon the platform and let the train go on without us.

Edward went straight towards a man who was quietly promenading the platform, and who, by his uniform, appeared to be an officer of police. He took him aside and whispered a few words in his ear and showed him some papers which he took from his pocket.

We three entered the telegraph office. Edward addressed the operator and asked:

'Where is the train bound north at this moment?'

'Near Coventry.'

'When will it arrive there?'

'In five minutes.'

Edward seized a sheet of paper, and, in a trembling hand, wrote these words:

'To the chief of police, Coventry: Third carriage, first compartment, a man with black eyes and black hair, tall, wears a blue coat and a Scotch cap. Calls himself Willison. Arrest him!'

He handed the sheet to the police officer, who read it hastily and passed it to the operator.

The despatch was sent. In a few moments the operator turned to us and said:

'The train has just arrived at Coventry.'

'When does the express train leave London?' asked Edward.

'It is now quarter of nine,' said the operator, looking at the clock. 'The train leaves at ten o'clock.'

Then Edward seized another sheet of paper, and after reflecting a moment, began to write. Click, click, click, went the instrument. The operator turned his head and bent over it. Then he repeated as he read:

'Willison has been arrested. A woman accompanies him. What shall I do?'

As soon as Edward heard these words he wrote on another sheet: 'Wait for us at the Royal Arms Hotel,' and passed this also to the police officer, who read it and handed it to the operator.

Then, finishing what he had been already writing, Edward handed another sheet to the operator. These lines said: 'Mrs. Sinclair, 84 Jermyn street, London. Come to the Royal Arms, Coventry, by 10 o'clock express. You will find her you seek.'

Edward and I remained at the station. He was completely prostrated by the shock and the excitement, and was seized with a violent fever. He lay down upon a bench in the station and waited impatiently for the arrival of the train from London.

At last a short, shrill whistle announced its approach. Edward examined the several carriages as the train moved into the station.

'There she is,' he said, pointing out to me Mrs. Sinclair seated in a compartment.

We sprang into another car and took two vacant seats. Not a word was said by either of us until we reached Coventry.

There, Edward taking me by the hand, held me back until all the passengers had left the train. Among the others we saw Mrs. Sinclair leap rather than descend upon the platform.

'We must respect her grief,' said Edward. 'We will not approach her until it becomes absolutely necessary.'

The 'Royal Arms' was not far from the station. Mrs. Sinclair hastened there, and, addressing one of the servants, described her daughter to him, and asked him where her room was. They took her to it.

When Mrs. Sinclair knocked on the door, which was shut, Mary cried, in a trembling voice:

'Ah! Adolphe (that was Willison's name), here you are at last. I have been so frightened.'

She opened the door, but when, instead of him whom she expected, she saw her mother before her, she stood for an instant motionless. Then she cried: 'My mother! My mother here!' and sank upon the floor in a swoon.

When she recovered consciousness she began to weep bitterly.

'Oh, mother,' she said, sobbing, 'can you ever pardon your unhappy daughter?'

'My dear Mary,' replied her mother, 'it is I who ask your pardon. Through my unreasonable objections I drove you to the point where you decided upon this reprehensible course. I repudiate the warnings I have had, I sacrifice my will to yours, my judgment to your inclination.'

'No, mother,' interrupted Mary, 'your will shall be obeyed. I yield to your judgment. I promise that this first false step shall be the last.'

'If you love this Willison,' continued Mrs. Sinclair, 'I give my consent to your marriage. You shall marry him, not as a fugitive, but before the entire world, and under your mother's protection.'

Suddenly Edward sprang into the chamber.

'No,' he cried; 'that shall never be. Withdraw your consent, Mrs. Sinclair.'

Mary, on hearing Edward's voice, grew pale and began to tremble. Finally she burst into tears and threw herself into her mother's arms. Mrs. Sinclair, disturbed by what she considered impertinence on the part of Edward, turned to him and said:

'Mr. Morley, you have always shown a dislike for Adolphe, and it is owing to you, perhaps, that I myself have been prejudiced against him. I do not know what circumstances have made you a witness of this scene; but judge for yourself, can I refuse my consent when I have no good reason for so doing?'

'Madame,' replied Edward, 'if it did not concern Mary's very life, my intervention would doubtless be an impertinence. But now my position is a secondary consideration; Mary must be saved whether she will or no. Willison is in prison.'

'In prison!' cried Mary, and a look of noble indignation overspread her face. 'It is you, then, who have done this.'

'Mary,' replied Edward, in a gentle but serious tone, 'arm yourself with courage, and thank God for having saved you on the brink of a precipice. Willison is a vile impostor.'

'Edward!' cried Mary.

'Believe me, I would never use such a term against any one were I not sure of what I say. What I have said of Willison is the truth. He told us he had been a general in India, and that he had made a fortune there. He told us finally that he loved you. He has deceived you cruelly.'

'But, Edward,' interrupted Mary.

'Do you wish to know who he is? He is an escaped convict from the Irish prisons; it was he who robbed Maccolen's father, and he wished to marry you only to obtain your fortune and then abandon you. You know I went to Germany in the hope that I might prevent Eric a portion of his fortune. While I was in Hanover a band of counterfeiters was arrested. The trial disclosed the fact that this association had ramifications in many parts of Germany. On this account the affair created great excitement. I learned that among its agents was a Polish count named Alinsky. A suspicion at once arose in my mind that he might be the robber of Eric's father, so I hastened to lay before the authorities all that I knew regarding the circumstances of this crime. There was but little difficulty in establishing the identity of this man as the robber of Maccolen, but he was neither a count nor a Pole; he was an American smuggler called Tom Gregg. He was arrested in Ireland and condemned for life for an attempt to murder. Escaping from prison, he had no fixed domicile, and was last heard of in London. He changed his name often. That which he signed to his correspondence with the association was his Polish title.'

'Several of his letters were produced, and among them one dated London, and which the authorities permitted me to keep. Here it is. See if you recognise the writing.'

Mary took the paper and glanced at it. Then she turned very pale, let the letter drop and buried her face in her hands.

'I received the same impression,' continued Edward, 'at the sight of this writing. I was seized with horror, for I thought I recognised the hand of Willison. Then I promised the police to aid them in capturing him, so I was hastening to London, hoping to arrive in time to save you, when I met you on the way.'

Here Edward stopped and waited. But the silence was broken only by Mary's sobs. Finally Mrs. Sinclair extended her hand and said:

'Mary has not her father nor brother to protect her. You have shown a noble devotion; you have protected her against herself; I shall never forget that. I am sure that Mary, cured of her unfortunate blindness, feels as I do.'

Mary also timidly extended her hand to Edward, and a smile broke through her tears.

'How can I ever repay you,' she said. 'But for you, what would have been my fate?'

'I thank God that I have saved you,' replied Edward. 'I always had an inexplicable aversion for this man, and saw with pain the influence which he exercised over you. Something warned me that danger threatened you. But you are safe, and this villain will receive the punishment he merits.'

Edward and I then left the room.

The police received from Edward all the necessary information; the identity of Willison with Tom Gregg was established, and he was sent back to the prison from which he had escaped.

A month later I officiated as best man at Edward's wedding. A happier pair than he and Mary cannot be found in the whole kingdom, and Mary will never cease to congratulate herself on her narrow escape.

A STRANGE COINCIDENCE.

It happened three or four years ago, that a young English lady in leaving the boat at Lucerne met with what at the moment appeared to be a very trifling accident. She slipped and fell, and in falling struck her head against the bulwark of the boat. Her mother, who was close by and had seen the blow, was alarmed by it and asked her daughter if she had hurt her head.

'No, mamma,' the girl answered; 'nothing to signify, but I have hurt my foot. I don't think I can stand.'

By this time she had been helped out of the stream of passengers, which was pouring from the boat to the shore, and placed on one of the deck seats. Even this movement had given her so much pain that there was clearly a bad sprain, if not a fracture to be apprehended, and father, mother and sister were standing around the sufferer in considerable perplexity and dismay.

Suddenly the girl broke into a half merry, half rueful laugh. 'Don't look so miserable, please,' she said. 'I suppose I must get to the hotel somehow, and the sooner the better; but I doubt very much if I can stand. Papa, do you think I could be carried on shore?'

Two gentlemen, the last of the passengers, had been standing at a short distance from the family group until this moment. When the girl spoke the elder of the two made a step forward with a remonstrative, 'Well, I suppose I must, but it's a horrid bore!' And then, with a rapid change of tone and a courteous raising of his hat, addressed the mother:—

'I am a doctor. Can I be of any service to you?'

The poor lady turned round with a wonderfully relieved countenance. 'Oh, thank you!' she said. 'How very fortunate! What a comfort to see an English doctor! If you could tell us how much she is hurt!'

'Not very much, I hope,' he answered, and proceeded to feel the girl's foot and ankle gently. She winced a little, but smiled and thanked him prettily.

'It is a slight sprain,' he said, 'which must be strapped and kept still for a few days. She had better be taken to your hotel. If you have the carriage ready I will carry her there at once, so that she may be made comfortable. The less delay in these cases the better.'

In another minute he had picked her up (she was not a very heavy weight, certainly) and had put her—hardly hurting her at all,' she laughingly said to him—into the carriage which was to take her to the Schweizerhof. Her mother and sister went with her—her father was for the moment absorbed in the care of the luggage—and the doctor, with his fellow traveller, walked briskly along the sunny street after the invalid and her companions.

Mr. Garston, the English surgeon who had so opportunely come to the relief of his countrywoman in distress, was by no means knight errant, nor was he at all pressed by the unexpected demand made on his time and services. He had just begun to enjoy a long desired and hardly earned holiday, and had come to Switzerland, resolved to conceal his profession and avoid his compatriots. Even when the accident happened before his eyes he had only waited to assure himself that no danger to life had apparently arisen before he said to his brother: 'Now we will keep out of their way—there are plenty of other people to help them,' and he had been rather annoyed at being answered: 'All the same, I think if I were you I should see that the sprain was properly attended to.'

When the girl, whose very lips were white with pain, had said those few laughing words as she put her into the carriage, his disinclination to help her had partly melted. 'She does not make any unnecessary fuss,' he said to himself; and although he still grumbled at his brother's remarks, he offered himself as a victim to circumstances. He and his brother were going to stay a few days at the Schweizerhof, and as they walked thither he felt that after all it would be brutal to refuse his aid in a case where it could be given with so little trouble, and might alleviate much suffering.

Before the end of the day tolerably friendly relations had been established between the Garstons and the family of the elder Mr. Garston's patient. The head of this family was Mr. Sterling, a Scotchman long established in Manchester, and very wealthy. His wife was a kind, simple woman, who was not yet quite sure whether, for her own part, she liked the grandeur of her later days one bit better than the comparative poverty of her earlier ones, but who certainly did like her present acquaintances and everything of the best, and their own wills in almost everything. The girls were both pretty and good; and that one of them, at least, possessed a considerable amount of courage and self control Mr. Garston could have testified after he had strapped up and bandaged her poor, swollen ankle and told her that for a good many days to come she would have to limit her acquaintance with beautiful Lucerne to as much of it as could be seen from her couch and a window.

Nor was his opinion shaken even when, quite early the next morning Mr. Sterling came to his room and begged he would have the goodness to visit Minnie as soon as possible, as she had had a restless night and much alarmed her mother. He obeyed the call directly, and was shocked to find the girl half delirious, moaning now and then, 'my head! my head!' and in a high fever. It was evident that the blow on her head, regarded as of no consequence at the time, had been really the more serious injury of the two, and Mr. Garston at once found all his care and skill called upon to avert very serious consequences.

This care and skill, however, were not small, nor were they grudgingly used, and with the tender nursing of mother and sister they succeeded by and by in bringing all danger to an end. For some days Mr. Garston made himself almost a prisoner; then, as cause for anxiety diminished, he ventured a stage at which he saw his patient in the morning, and then felt himself at liberty (so far as she was concerned) to be absent until the same hour on the following day. Mr. Sterling joined in some of these excursions; two or three times his youngest daughter Emmie (the Sterlings were great in admiration) was of the party, and the Sterlings' sitting room was always open to the brothers in the evening. Thus a considerable degree of intimacy grew up before Minnie was able to leave her room.

It was in the very end of her imprisonment that a curious incident occurred.

One evening, after the two brothers had been absent all day, and when they had come back to the hotel unusually tired, Mr. Garston refused to drop in for the customary cup of tea in the Sterling's sitting room. He would smoke a cigar, he said, and go to bed early. The heat of the day had made his head ache, and he was not bright enough to care for talk. So he was left alone, and before 10 o'clock went to bed.

He had taken a book with him, which at first interested him a good deal. He had no premonitory feeling of drowsiness to warn him to put out his light, but he probably did fall asleep—as we sometimes do—quite abruptly. At any rate, waking or asleep, his attention was roused by the opening of his door and the entrance of a man into his still lighted bedroom. The intruder appeared to be about his own age—30; was rather good looking, tall and well made, with blue eyes and a quantity of wavy or curly brown hair. He was in a brown knickerbocker suit—a very prominent brown, not at all likely to be mistaken for any other color; and he was carrying something, not clearly distinguishable, in his hand. He walked composedly into the middle of the room, looked steadily at its startled occupant, and then, without having spoken a word, turned round and walked out again.

Mr. Garston, astonished at this midnight visitation, and annoyed with himself for not having spoken to the intruder, which he had seemed unable to do, quickly jumped out of bed, threw on a dressing gown and hurried to the door. Bright moonlight was filling the corridor, and he could see the stranger going deliberately toward the staircase. Of course, the natural conclusion was that he was some belated guest, who had missed the way to his own room; but against this theory here was some mysterious feeling of 'uncanniness' in the whole proceeding that seemed to compel Mr. Garston to follow and see whither the unknown would go. This curious feeling increased as the man—his noticeable dress fully lighted up from time to time by an inflowing stream of moonlight—went on, leaving the story on which were the rooms occupied by the two brothers, and descending to the corridor partly occupied by the Sterlings.' They have five rooms, and the middle one of these was that occupied by Minnie.

She was now so far recovered as to be left alone at night, her sister's room adjoining and opening into hers. Mr. Garston was, of course, acquainted with these arrangements, and it was with an increase of surprise and curiosity that he now saw his mysterious visitor pause at Minnie Sterling's door, then open it quietly and walk in. The young man followed. The stranger approached the bedside where the girl lay calmly sleeping, undisturbed by the invasion of her room. He paused for a minute, then raised his arm, and with one strong, steady stroke plunged a long knife into the sleeper's breast!

There was a moment in which the horrified bystander saw nothing; then his vision steadied, and he perceived that the murderer was gone, that the sleeper still lay before him, but that sleep had passed into death without a cry, without a struggle. And then he was conscious of a strange numbness of all his faculties, which made it seem impossible to speak or act or even think. It did not occur to him to give any alarm or in any way make known what had happened He turned away and left the room and got back to his own without shaking off this numbness in the least; and so, from a kind of horrible mental haze, he fell into a deep but troubled sleep.

He woke in the morning later than usual, and as he woke the fearful experience of the night returned to his memory. At first he thought it had been a dream; then every detail came to his recollection with such perfect clearness that he assured himself it was not so; and then came a dread of being summoned by the Sterlings, as he certainly would be the moment the tragedy was discovered.

He sprang up and dressed. The hotel was already awake and astir, and he wondered the murder had not yet been made known to fill the cheerful house with horror and dismay. Every moment he expected some cry of distress, some hurried footstep rushing to tell him the fatal news; but all was quiet, or rather, all was noisy with the usual sounds of coming and going, in that great caravansery.

At last he could endure suspense no longer. He went down stairs, and though it was far before the hour of his daily visit, he approached with indescribable anxiety the door of the Sterlings' sitting room. Just as he did so it opened and Mr Sterling came out